SUNDAY
December 22, 2024

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ

ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ

ಕೆ.ಕೆ. ಆರ್.ಡಿ.ಬಿ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ 371 ಹಾಸಿಗೆ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಶಾಖೆಯ ಲೋಕಾರ್ಪಣೆ

ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ ಹಾರ್ದಿಕ ಸ್ವಾಗತ

ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಕಲಬುರಗಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಕೆಆರ್‌ಡಿಬಿಯಿಂದ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾಗಿರುವ ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಮುಂಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಸಭೆ ವಿರೋಧ ಪಕ್ಷದ ನಾಯಕರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಡಾ. ಮಲ್ಲಿಕಾರ್ಜುನ ಖರ್ಗೆ, ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವರಾದ ಡಾ. ಶರಣಪ್ರಕಾಶ್ ಪಾಟೀಲ್, ಕೆಕೆಆರ್‌ಡಿಬಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಡಾ. ಅಜಯಸಿಂಗ್, ಆರ್‌ಡಿಪಿಆರ್, ಐಟಿಬಿಟಿ ಸಚಿವರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಪ್ರಿಯಾಂಕ್ ಖರ್ಗೆ ಇದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಯೋಜನೆ ವಿವರ

- ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ **371** ಹಾಸಿಗೆ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ರೂ.**262.20** ಕೋಟಿಗಳ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ರೂ.**56.77** ಕೋಟಿಗಳ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಒಟ್ಟು ರೂ.**318.97** ಕೋಟಿಗಳ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಕ.ಕ.ಪ್ರ.ಅ.ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ನಿಧಿ ಅಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳ ಮ್ಯಾಕ್ರೋ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ರೂ.**262.20** ಕೋಟಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಕರಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ರೂ.**40.00** ಕೋಟಿಗಳು ಒಟ್ಟು ರೂ. **302.20** ಕೋಟಿಗಳ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕೆಕೆಆರ್‌ಡಿಬಿಯಿಂದ ಕಲಬುರಗಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾದ ಜಯದೇವ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಪ್ರಗತಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನಾ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯೋಜನೆ, ಸಾಂಖ್ಯಿಕ ಖಾತೆ ಸಚಿವರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ. ಸುಧಾಕರ, ಮಂಡಳಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಜೇವರ್ಗಿ ಶಾಸಕ ಡಾ. ಅಜಯಸಿಂಗ್ ಇದ್ದಾರೆ.

ದಿನಾಂಕ 22-12-2024 ಭಾನುವಾರ
ಸ್ಥಳ: ಎಸ್. ಎಮ್. ಪಂಡಿತ್ ರಂಗಮಂದಿರದ ಎದುರು,
ಸರ್ದಾರ್ ವಲ್ಲಭ ಭಾಯಿ ಪಟೇಲ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಕಲಬುರಗಿ
ಸಮಯ : ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.೩೦ ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

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STORIES FROM THE MOUNTAINS

In 2025, look to the Himalayas

A recent festival in Delhi, showcasing the cultures and conservation work of Himalayan communities, could kickstart more conversations

MAGAZINE» PAGE 1

What are India's plans for a quantum satellite?

FAQ » PAGE 13

U.S. court finds Israel's NSO group liable for hacking WhatsApp

WORLD » PAGE 15

Jadeja hopes to carry on in similar vein in the rest of the series

SPORT » PAGE 16

Review of GST on life and health insurance deferred

Council raises taxes on used cars, exempts gene therapy and long-range surface-to-air missiles, and proposes setting up a ministerial group to examine tax levies imposed by disaster-hit States

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

The much-anticipated review of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) levies on life and health insurance premiums was put off by the GST Council, the apex body in charge of the indirect tax regime, at its 55th meeting on Saturday, as some members sought more discussions on the matter before taking a final call.

A Group of Ministers under Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary is now expected to meet afresh to deliberate on the insurance levies once more before coming back to the Council with its recommendations. Moreover, suggestions on rate rationalisation pertaining to about 150 items, including a price-based differential levy for garments, and 5% levies for packaged drinking water, and bicycles priced under ₹10,000, were also put off till the Council's next meeting.

The Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, which met in Jaisalmer, also decided to grant more time to a ministerial group tasked with suggesting a road map for dealing with the GST Compensation Cess levies on several items that are scheduled for a March 2026 sunset.

The Council did agree on some rate changes, including exempting gene therapy and long-range surface-to-air missiles (LRSAMs) from the tax, raising the levies on used car sales, including electric vehicles, to 18% from 12%.

Separately, a ministerial group would be set up to examine tax levies by States hit by natural disasters.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Playing safe

At the GST Council's 55th meeting, members agreed to some changes in the indirect tax regime, while deferring a decision on many broader issues

D-day: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chairs GST Council meeting in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

SETTLED

- Popcorn taxation – Savoury to attract 5% or 12% GST, 18% levy on **sweetened varieties**
- **Gift vouchers** are not taxable
- Levy on **fortified rice kernels** to be reduced from 18% to 5%
- Tax on **used cars**, including electric ones, raised from 12% to 18%

NOT SETTLED

- Review of the GST levied on **health and life insurance premiums**
- Future of **Compensation Cess levies** after March 2026 sunset
- Plan to tax Floor Space Index (FSI) charges for **real estate firms**
- Rate Rationalisation – GoM **proposals made for rate changes** on about 150 items not taken up

5 killed in Germany Christmas market attack

Agence France-Presse
MAGDEBURG

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz on Saturday condemned the "terrible, insane" car-ramming attack on a crowded Christmas market that killed five people and injured over 200. Seven Indians were among the injured, sources said.

The police arrested a 50-year-old Saudi Arabian psychiatry doctor at the scene on Friday, next to the SUV that had ploughed through the crowd leaving a trail of carnage. Mr. Scholz visited the site in Magdeburg on Saturday.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Govt. amends rule to restrict access to polling footage

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The Centre has amended the Conduct of Election Rules to restrict public access to a section of poll documents. This was brought into effect through a notification issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice on Friday following a recommendation by the Election Commission.

Rule 93(2)(a) of the 1961 Conduct of Election Rules had earlier stated that "all other papers relating to the election shall be open to public inspection". After the amendment, it reads, "all other papers as specified in these rules relating to the election shall be open to public inspection."

While officials said the rule has been amended to prevent misuse of CCTV footage of polling stations, RTI activists have termed it a setback to transparency.

The move follows a recent direction to the EC by the Punjab and Haryana High Court to share all documents related to Haryana Assembly polls, including treating CCTV footage also as permissible under Rule 93(2), to a petitioner named Mahmoud Pracha.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

ERODES INTEGRITY: CONG. » PAGE 9

NEARBY

Six killed as truck topples on car

BENGALURU
Six persons belonging to a family were killed when a truck toppled on their car on Begur-Nelamangala highway on Saturday. » PAGE 3

Ravi demands judicial probe

BENGALURU
Alleging that there was a "plot to murder" him, BJP MLC C.T. Ravi demanded a judicial probe into the case filed against him. » PAGE 6

CLASSIFIEDS » PAGE J2
MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES

25% of India's total area under green cover: Report

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

India's forest and tree cover has reached a quarter of the country's total geographical area, according to the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023, released by the Government of India on Saturday.

The increase of 25.17% breaks down to 21.76% of forest cover (7.15 lakh sq. km) and 3.41% of tree cover (1,289 sq. km).

The Forest Survey of India (FSI) defines "forest cover" as land with tree canopy density exceeding 10% and covering at least one hectare. Thus "forest" in ISFR includes plantations.

The FSI counts trees outside forests towards the 'tree cover' if they occupy less than one hectare and if they also lie outside reserve forest areas.

Forest Survey of India Director-General Anoop Singh said bamboo cover is also included in the tree cover.

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav singled out the report's finding that India has augmented its carbon sink by 2.29 billion tonnes over 2005 levels.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

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Right pick: Vegetable wholesalers separate rotten tomatoes from fresh ones.

Perennial operation: The massive vegetable market ensures round-the-clock flow of raw materials to the waste-to-power plant.

Circle of power: The Bowenpally market produces three or four tonnes of organic waste every day, which drives production at the waste-to-power plant in a win-win situation.

Greens power

The Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Vegtable Market Yard in Hyderabad is mastering sustainability with a system that uses organic waste to generate power, bringing substantial savings in electricity bills

Nagara Gopal
nagara.gopal@thehindu.co.in

Hyderabad's Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Vegetable Market Yard, or Bowenpally market, has always been a hive of activity. But recently, the buzz was not just about the arrival of a variety of vegetables from near and far. The noise and bustle of customers and tractors moving goods blends with the whirring motors of a waste-to-power plant located within the market.

The anaerobic gas lift reactor-based plant was developed by the CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), the State Department of Marketing, and Ahuja Engineering Services at a cost of ₹3 crore.

It has a capacity to produce up to 800-1,000 units of electricity a day using 10 tonnes of waste.

The market produces three or four tonnes of organic waste every day. This waste is first placed on conveyor belts which carry it to shredders. After shredding, the waste is converted into a slurry and is put into large containers or pits. These are high-rate biomethanation technology-based reactors.

The reactors start the process of anaerobic digestion, where organic waste is converted into biofuel. The fuel is then put into biogas generators that converts it into electricity.

The electricity generated from the plant powers more than 100 streetlights, 170 stalls, an administrative building, and the market's water supply network – giving the market committee substantial savings in power bills.

The plant produces biogas, which is being used to replace LPG cylinders in canteens. Biomanure generated is sold separately as organic fertilizer.

Currently, the plant produces 300 units of power and 60 kg of biogas every day.

Nothing goes waste: Workers remove leaves from vegetables to be sold at the Bowenpally market.

Classifieds

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BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

BUSINESS

✔ **AFFLUENT BUSINESS** woman, 42yrs, Slim,tall,fit,athletic. Runs own firm. Looking for similar background (even younger) groom. Contact 9342075206

COSMOPOLITAN

BEAUTIFUL, CARING professional 26, 168cm, affluent, open–minded S. Indian family. Seeking accomplished, compatible groom. Call/WA 9345634365

✔ **DENTIST MDS; 1989 Fair Mrigaseerisham/Rishabam; 170 cms Thevar/Naidu parents Seek Chennai settled elite grooms 9445332601**

DOCTOR

SUNNI MUSLIM Urdu, 33yrs, 168cm, MBBS MD, Never Married, from Well Settled Family. Looking for PG Doctors / Engineers from Well Settled Families, Preferably from South India, UK, Middle East. Ct: 9444551651

HINDU TAMIL BC Doctor 26/ 175 cm Fair, Clear Horoscope Seeks Tall Handsome PG Doctors with Good Habits from Simple family.Contact with Full view Photograph, Horoscope and biodata. Ph.7200365364

BEAUTIFUL RICH Dr Girl Veg 29 MD Gen Medicine Kettai Chennai seeks PG Dr Boy Veg only WhatsApp 9384086399

HINDU REDDY Surgeon 34Y 165cms Own Practice. Seeks Suitable Groom, Any Profession from Dubai, Singapore, India. CNB, 89256 40111.

HINDU NADAR
Chennai, Only Daughter (25) Fair & Good Looking, MBBS, (MD) DVL, Rich Affluent, well-Educated family seeks suitable Good Looking Doctor Groom with clean habits from Hindu Nadar.
94447 59246
Ct: 94449 68235

Wanted Bridegroom
USA 27 year old Doctor from Tamilnadu doing Neurology residency at NewJersey seeks Doctor groom
Whatsapp : 9677026459

Doctor MD ANS Hindu Nadar 29/70/170 seeks groom EQ details Contact: 9976610580 9445521250.

IAS / ALLIED SERVICES

Nair Girl, 27/161, Pooradam, IAAS Officer, Contact: 9020408981, 8921417280.

MALAYALAM

THRISSUR EZHAVA girl 30/ 157. M.Tech doing PHD.caste no bar 9497073049

SAIVAVELLA GIRL MBBS chithira /thulaam 26/154 preparing PG seeks doctor/professional. 8547230711

DELHI BASED Nair girl 29/145 Pooram 1.5 Dosham pursuing Phd in Edinburgh seeks suitable alliance preferably from Palghat/Trichur and nearby districts. Contact 9818364188

HINDU WIDOW, 42/163 cm MCA, Working in MNC Kerala, living with 2 kids, Mob: 9847851263

VISWAKARMA, GS Girl, 36, B.Sc. Agriculture, Bank Manager, 9447528352.

TAMIL

RC NADAR, 26yrs, MBBS, MD, Elite family, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9380791999/ 9841329471

CHRISTIAN, NADAR, 33 yrs, Divorced, MBBS, MD, at Tirunelveli. Income 30 lakhs. Ph. 7356483111

CHRISTIAN, RC, 30 yrs, B.E, Software Engineer at Chennai. Income 25 lakhs. Ph. 8138900530

THE HINDU
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TAMIL

CHRISTIAN–RC SOZHIA Vellalar, Doctor 27 yrs, Pursuing PG Chennai. Seeks PQM Groom. Call 9840150090

CHRISTIAN GIRL 34 years Eng graduate working in MNC at Chennai wanted Eng graduate from decent literate family – 9444325317

GOVT. DOCTOR (MD).37 yrs, 5ft 2inch. Fair. Never married.Seeks Eng/ Doc 37–40yrs. Never Married Christian Groom.India/abroad. Ct: 9940529886 / 9600573068

RC CHRISTIAN Nadar unmarried fair Bride, 35/170, M.E., Software Engr. seeks BC/FC unmarried Groom. Ct. 98868 88775.

LOOKING FOR Christian Bridegroom for the girl working in USA startup aged 26. End time message. 8939250457

CHRISTIAN CSI, Divorce, age 42, Seeks working Professional, God fearing Christian Groom from educated family. Mob : 8939896578

TAMIL MUSLIM, 30/159, AVP in MNC at Hyderabad, well settled, 24L PA seeks suitable Groom in Hyderabad/ Bengaluru. Ct.9080501299

NATHAMAR UDAYAR, Catholic 31 yrs, HR Professional– MNC , with null and void order looking for catholic boy below 35 yrs, premier Institute or IT professional with null and void or unmarried with clean habits. WhatsAp 9443124608

BORN AGAIN christian, 44yrs/152, MBBS, MD doctor, seeks christian groom, CT–9500188067

CHRISTIAN, RC, 31 Yrs, MBBS, Doctor at Kanyakumari, Income 10 Lakhs. Ct 8138901281.

HINDU MUTHURAJA GIRL 23 /160/ MCA, Seeks Groom in Tamil Nadu only, preferably BE / MCA / M.Sc., (CS) / Good Job, 29-30 years age. Contact: 89256 15004.

DOCTOR MD (Pathology) DCH 39yrs Hindu BC, Divorcee without child, working in a private hospital, seeks well settled, compatible, decent & affectionate Groom CNB Ct: 9176289180

Vanniya Kula Kshatriya Bride 31 Years BE Working in Govt. Service seeks Bridegroom Govt/Pvt/Bank Same Caste. Preferable Ct: 9789810972/ 9444949349. Mail: kumarguru59@gmail.com

NADAR BUSINESS family, very rich industrialist family, 22 yrs daughter, well educated. Looking for similar business family background groom. +91 9994106265

BRIDEGROOM WANTED for a well–to–do hindu family's bride age 42, first marriage, degree–MSW, want from (FC, BC, MBC), working within India. CT: 9080359664.

HINDU NADAR Chennai Divorcee of 37 yrs in Government job seeks working bridegroom below 41yrs. 9443156344

CASTE NO Bar, 25yrs, BE, MBA, Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9710093999/ 9710091999

NAIDU, 43/150, Uthirattathi, Ph.D, Professor, First Marriage, Sub-sec no bar, seeks suitable Groom.Ph:7358166806

HINDU, SC, 27 yrs, B.E, MBA, Business Analyst at Chennai. Income 25 lakhs. Ph. 8138900305

VELLALAR (CNB) Fair 31 MBBS, seeks Doctor/ Engineer groom. Whatsapp photo & biodata to 8056325579

SOZHIYAVELLALAR PILLAI Age 30 BE (CSE) Working in Pvt Sector Chennai, Seeks Groom Preferable from Pillai/Mudaliar Age 30–32, BE Working in IT Field, Employed in Chennai / India / Abroad. Ct Gowdhaman 9342276143

PILLAI REMARRIAGE 30 / 5'7 V Fair M Arch Canada seeks suitable Abroad / India Profiles Geetham 9884858014

HINDU NADAR B.Tech MBA, Industrialist, 26/166 Mumbai Based Seeking Suitable Groom. Contact: 8424058261

HINDU NADAR 27yrs BE 1 Lakh pm, Elite business family.Seeks Suitable Groom Contact 6385293227/ 9360732728

LOOKING FOR Elite Bridegroom for 27 yr, smart girl, (Nadar) MBA from NUS Singapore, not particular about Horoscope.Broad Minded with Modern outlook. Whatsapp: 93421 04357

ADI DRAVIDAR Remarriage 37 / 164cm BE MBA working Chennai seeks Suitable Profile CNB Geetham 9884858014

DKV/SC 30/167CM fair BE TCS Chennai, Parents Hindu / CSI. Seeks Groom Dr/Er, Govt Employee Ct: 8056143638

TAMIL

MUDALIAR: 25/ V.Fair, B.Tech, M.Tech (IIT), MNC, Project Manager, Chennai, 1,50,000PM,Well settled family, seeks groom Abroad / Business – 8925019776

HINDU, MUKKULATHOR, 23 yrs, B.Sc, Business at Madurai.Income 1crore. Ph 8138901294

HINDU NADAR 32yrs/164cm, B.Tech star–Revathy workg–IT seeks IT/ other Profnl Groom 9944410712/ 9514952555

RICH MUDALIYAR, 25yrs, BE, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Groom. 9962791888/ 7094991999

HINDU, MUDALIYAR, 28 yrs, MA, Teacher at Chennai, Income 6 Lakhs ph 9072777822

HINDU, CASTE no bar, 22 Yrs, B.A, Business at bangalore, income 1 crore. Ph 8138900652

✔ **PILLAI 30** Yr 150 cm Mcom CA –Final,Revathi–Meenam living in Blr seeking alliance. MOB 9110498818

Hindu SC/Fair/ 29 Yrs/ 152 M Law well settled/ seeks Groom/ CNB/ Chennai Contact: 6379521614.

TAMIL BEAUTIFUL Girl 1999 Born/ 165cm /Rich/ BLR/ Is looking for a Match (080–69141356)

HINDU NADAR, 28yrs, MBBS, MD, Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9380791999/ 9841329471

MUDALIAR, HASTHAM, 39yrs/ 162cm, B.E, M.B.A., working as V.P.Royal Bank, Canada. Seeks suitable qualified Groom in India/Abroad. Ct: 9843092595.

GROOM WANTED Mudaliyar 25yrs B.Tech Own Schools & Colleges Elite family in Chennai 9710093999/ 9710091999

DOCTOR MD 37y 165cm fair athletic divorced seeks well settled groom from Chennai. Call : 9445018192

HINDU, VEERA saivam, 34 Yrs, B.E, Engineer at Coimbatore, Income 1 Crore. Ct 8138900553.

Iyer Vadamal Bharatwajam Uthiradam Nov 92 B Com, MS, CPA wrking in Europe seeks Iyer groom blw 35. 8903367194 / vadavaran@gmail.com

IYENGAR THENKALAI Srivatsam Magam 1994 BE MS employed in Sweden seeks qualified Tamil groom employed in Europe/India Whatsapp 9008373183

SWATHI 29,BRAHMIN Iyer,Chennai B.com M.S(IT) Newzealand Seeks Compatible Groom,Affluent Traditional, Only Respectable Iyer Only/Abroad BHP Details: sriramsundaram1960@gmail.com

ELITE BRAHMIN FAMILY
SOUTH INDIA'S LEADING BUSINESS FAMILY SEEKING A GROOM FOR THEIR DAUGHTER COMPLETED STUDIES ABORAD AGE 30
GROOM PREFERENCE
FROM AN LEADING BRAHMIN FAMILY ELITE AND WELL QUALIFIED
kssgrand20@gmail.com

GROOM WANTED
MUDALIAR, 24 yrs, 165 cms, B.Arch, Lives in Chennai, Father is a Businessman, Upper middle class family. Looking for a like minded match from the same community.
Contact: 9080629216

Vaniya Chettiar, 28years, Beautiful, C.A., working in MNC in Chennai. We Prefer Hindu groom with C.A./Financial Executive, Tamil-Speaking Non-Vegetarian from Chettiar, Mudaliyar & Pillai. Please send Horoscope & other details to WhatsApp No: 94445 87465

SAIVA Pillai Girl 26/160 Ayilyam Fair BE SWE MNC B'lore 15L 9367762226 senthilnathanb76@gmail.com, Cbe.

SEEKS NRI Groom, CSI/AG Tamil, Vellalar, 26yrs/168cm, BBA, ACCA. Call/WA: +919489332578

Tamil Muslim 33/150 SW Enr 1.5LPM seeks suitable Groom pref. SW Engr in Chennai/ Bangalore. Ct: 87784 00653

NAIDU, 27/166, Fair, Good looking B.Tech Central Govt.Officer in Mumbai seeks suitable alliance. 97893 41010

CHRISTIAN, CASTE no bar, 33 Yrs, Remarriage, B.Sc, Nurse At Dubai, Income 20 Lakhs ph 9048444840 -

SOZHIYA VELLAR, Pillai, 27/165cm B.E., M.Tech Avittam/ Makaram seeks Suitable, Educated, well Settled with Good Family Groom Ct: 98400 79361

HINDU, SC, 30 yrs, Divorced, BE , Business at Chennai, Income 20 Lakhs. Ct 8138901181.

BRIDES WANTED

COSMOPOLITAN

HANDSOME, SUCCESSFUL, 35, 188cm, well–spoken, from cultured S. Indian family. Seeking well–educated, compatible partner. Call/WA 9345634365.

DOCTOR 58 / 177 seeks well settled Tall Slim Bride Widow Divorcee below 40 – Relocation OK – 94422 64610

WANTED BRIDE for 39 years Software Engineer Divorced No issues seeks any Hindu brides preferably from South India. Contact 8617793800

ELITE FAIR Educated Brahmin 38Yr Business (IND & Netherland) 40 LAKH Seeks accomplished girl. Flexibl (Age/Caste/Lang/Locatn) Ph 93848–38570

KARKATHAR PILLAI 36, 170cm, fair and handsome, BE (Telecom), Officer Indian Army IT Branch, 30 lacs PA, never married, son of retd army officer looking for affable and well educated girl. Equal and sub caste no bar. 9448307862.

HINDI

1985/175CM, 50 Lakhs PA, Never Married, Bangalore. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

MALAYALAM

NAIR BOY 38, Avittam B.Tech, M.Tech working in USA (H1B Visa) Cast no bar. 78454 70323, 94884 57539

MBA / CA / ICWA

CANADA SETTLED INDIAN Data Scientist looking for 22–25 age bride, 1CR, 168cm . 8240623142

NRI

HINDU BC ,UK resident software engineer seeks bride. Age 33,Ht 168 cm, 72 Kg, Wheatish color.Star : Bharani,Rasi :Mesham.Parents residence: Chennai/Nagercoil.Contact 8056575473

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN, RC, 35 yrs, MS, IT Professional at Chennai. Income 25 lakhs. Ph. 8138900470

CHRISTIAN, CSI, 25 yrs, Software Developer at Chennai. Income 25 lakhs. Ph. 8138900487

CHRISTIAN 39 years Eng graduate well settled at Chennai working MNC wanted graduate girl from decent literate christian family – 9445931257

TAMIL

TAMIL MUSLIM Mutually Divorced No Issue BE USA HQ MNC good salary clean habit honest goodlooking person reputed Educated Family seeks suitable professionally Educated Unmarried Girl preferable around 32 Years in same religion. Cell: +91-7845229589, Mail ID: gotomsf@gmail.com

MUSLIM BUSINESS 29Years Men Settled in Chennai Seeks Good Looking Bride & Affiliated Family.Ct 8610413473

RC CHRISTIAN, 42yrs/170. B.E. Software Engineer, never married, works for mnc, Chennai. CT–9500188067

AGAMUDAIYAR UTHIRADAM 34/180 B.Tech, TCS, Hyderabad, 2Lpm, seeks Equally Qualified bride, Caste No Bar. Contact: 8220984182

AGAMUDAIYAR, UTHIRAM/KANNI 35/180, BE, HRM, Job at Canada, Canadian Citizen, Seeks BE,Nursing, any degree bride.CNB. Ct:9442993042

VANNIYA KULA Kshatriya 31yrs, B.E Civil, M.Plan, Business Entrepreneur in Chennai, Earning 16L PA. Seeks Suitable Bride with Well Educated & Working. Same Caste Send Detailed. Contact : 70104 50846, 94441 63383, 94449 49349.

HINDU, YADAV, 25 yrs, MBA, Operations Manager at Bangalore. Income 30 lakhs. Ph. 9072777801

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ELITE BRIDES WANTED

CHETTIAR, 28, 177 cms, Businessman. Lives in Chennai. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

NADAR, 30, 183 cms, Businessman. Lives in Coimbatore. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

NAIDU, 25, 185 cms, Bachelors, Businessman. Lives in USA. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

ARYA VYSYA, 27, 180 cms, MS, Businessman. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

BRAHMIN, 32, 153 cms, MBA, Working Professional. Lives in Delhi. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

MUDALIYAR, 26, 167 cms, M.Arch, Architect. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

KAMMA NAIDU, 23, 174 cms, MSc. Lives in Chennai. Business class family. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from the similar community preferably Chennai. Contact: 6366448344

ARYA VYSYA, 22, 165 cms, UG. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community from Business family background. Location as South India. Contact: 6366448344

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ENGLISH

Hindu Asst.Professor Delhi University 35 Yrs,183cm, seeks Vegetarian PHD/MBBS Profesional Girl. Cast no bar Mobile: 9335877817

MALAYALAM

BRIDE WANTED
Well-Settled, Educated, Handsome Hindu boy, 28/172, seeking alliance from educated family (Caste no bar), Trivandrum
Ph:77366 69997

TAMIL

28/178/75 MS Engg UK, Accenture Bangalore,Tamil, Roman Catholic, Coimbatore, seeks educated working bride. Ct 9597259646

CHRISTIAN NADAR, Doctor, Divorcee 36yrs/178cm, MBBS, Dip in Cardiology better earning lives in Nagercoil seeks qualified/ Divorced Bride. 9003983230

REDDY 35/169cm Fair, Punarpoosam, Vegetarian/B.E./Employed/Divorcee Contact: 8072205041

CHRISTIAN DOCTOR, 39/176, MBBS, MD Paediatric Neonatologist, Working Trivandrum, Fair (Divorce) no kids. seeks good looking Doctor/Non Medico bride Age 30 -35, Kerala/Tamilnadu. Ct: 86100 20066 / 94433 26119.

TELUGU

NAIDU Age 54 Teacher 1st marriage Coimbatore, TN Looking for a suitable Groom Caste no bar. CT: 9585555827

RICH NAIDU, 24yrs, BE, MBA, well Educated Family background, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9176591777

NAIDU: 25/ V.Fair, MBBS, MS doing, Chennai, Elite family, Seeks groom Doctor / Business – 9962530015

NAIDU 26/162, Beautiful, BE, SWE, Microsoft USA, 130000.USD.PA, Elite,50.CR, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

HINDU NAIDU Born 1990/ 165cm Ph.D scholar smart good looking medium complexion from a Reputed family seeks well educated, settled groom in India born after 1987. Ct; 9790908109

GROOM WANTED Rich Naidu 24yrs MBA Own Transports, Elite business family in Chennai 9710093999/ 9710091999

SC, 33yrs/152cm, PharmD, Pursuing Ph.D, Divorcee, No kids, Seeks Groom – India & abroad, Caste No bar, ct.9700019949.

BALIJA NAIDU, 50Y ,Plus 2 .Working in a private company. Unmarried. Age and caste no bar. Ph: 78710 52352

URDU

URUDU MUSLIM Girl 30yrs/156cm divorcee with a kid, well educated working in Chennai, seeks open minded well settled groom settled in Chennai or Abroad. Ct 6380285475

URDU MUSLIM Labbai 33yrs/150cm, B.E Software Eng. 1.5 L PM Seeks Engineer Groom. Ct.9442669961

URDU SUNNI Muslim parents are seeking proposals for their daughter, aged 25, PG, fair, and well–educated. She is currently working with a reputed company and has been brought up in the Middle East in a respected family. We are looking for a religious, well–settled, educated professional (Doctor/Engineer) BASED ABROAD. Please forward biodata, photo, and family details to chennaitn786@outlook.com

SUNNI/ URDU/ CHENNAI girl, ACCA (financial consultant) 33/175 employed in Bangalore seeks Qualified Professionals employed in Bangalore – 9445714602

SUNNI URDU 26, 163cm, Engg, Hijabi, Canadian citizen seeks professional religious groom from Canada/USA/UK, Whatsapp +1 403 830 8019.

ELITE FAMILY Urudu Sunni Muslim, 22/162cm, Degree,Fair Girl in Tiruppur seeks well settled, high level Business Groom in Tamilnadu. Ct: 95001 49140

TAMIL

Viswakarma 30 M.Tech SWE Bangalore 40 Lac P.A seek Educated working girl with good family back ground, CNB. CT: 9444302810, 7904451259.

NADAR RICH Affluent family into business, 23yrs, educated abroad, good looking. We prefer girl from business family. Contact 9994106265

HINDU, PILLAI, BC, 48, MBBS Dr, Divorced, Well Settled, Caste/Age no bar, Seeks Good Bride. Ct 9443588820

BRIDE WANTED Rich Mudaliyar 36Yrs, MBBS, PG in UK, Divorce, Elite business Family. 9710093999/ 9710091999

HINDU, MARUTHUVAR, 28/168cm,Avitam, Chennai, BE (Mech), M–Des (NID,Ahm) Project Design Manager 8939326349

WELL SETTLED groom 48LPA 39yr, 154cm, B.E. MS, Hindu–Vettuva Goundar– Chennai looking for bride Tamil/Telugu – caste no bar, Graduate or PG Ct:9996710394

VANNIYAR, 39, BA, Divorcee, No child, Seeks suitable brides, Cast No bar Ct. 9094381898, 9841349909.

HINDU, PILLAI, 29 yrs, M.Tech, Application Developer at Chennai. Income 30 lakhs. Ph. 9072777804

HINDU, GOUNDER, 26 yrs, B.E, QA Engineer at Chennai. Income 12 lakhs. Ph. 8138901097

SEEKING HINDU Tamil graduate (preferably working) Bride for 34 years old, 172cms, Engineer, working in a IT firm in Australia as a Solution Architect. Caste no bar. Kindly contact9789925584

PILLAI NV 40/168cm Uthradam Makaram BE MBA Project Manager IT Chennai 30Lakhs/ year innocent divorcee. seeks Tamil girl employed in IT/ Bank/ Govt 35 to 39 yrs unmarried/ divorcee without child Caste no bar. Contact: 9283736478/ 9791128947

MUDALIAR DIVORCEE, PhD, Professor Pvt Eng.Collage, age 51, Magaram Seeks educated unmarried/ widow/ Divorcee without child from FC/OBC (40–45yrs) No Brokers Contact 9150799959

TAMIL

MUDALIAR 43 /164cm MCA Poosam Chennai seeks suitable Bride CNB / Geetham 9884858014

RICH MUDALIYAR 30yrs, MBBS, MD, Own constructions, Elite business family. Seeks Suitable Bride 9962791888

HINDU YADAVA 29 /179 MBBS Seeks well-qualified professional bride preferably a Doctor Ct: 9444674978

MUDALIAR 29, M Tech, 178cm, 23 Lacs PA,Smart well Settled Family Seeks Bride CNB 8778514465/ 7200866346

MUDALIAR: 29/178CM, Handsome, B.Tech, Business, Having own Manufacturing Industry, Chennai, 5lakhs PM, Elite family, seeks bride Affluent family – 9840866993/ 8939012419

AGE 46, 2nd Marriage, Working in Hospital at Qatar. Suitable Bride who willing to come Qatar. Ct: +97433840227 / 9498328263

Pillai 48/172cm, Utiram, B.E, Manager in Ashok Layland, Divorcee, seeks Un-Married/ Widow/ Divorcee without child from FC/OBC. 35-40yr Ct:7093864176

HINDU CHETTIAR, 43/170cm (Unmarried) Successful with Good Values. Head of Marketing, working in London seeks Educated Bride 30-38 yrs, preferably working. Caste No Bar. Contact : 86086 32946

Caste No BAR. 26/183 BE M.Sc. Working Abroad. 44 Laks PA. Smart Seeks Good looking Engineer Girl. 94445 25832

BE,MBA 37/170 Central Govt job Rs.70000 pm. seeks employed girl, Caste no bar, except SC/ST. 9382820178

MUDALIAR 31 / 177cm BE MBA Magam Chennai seeks Suitable working Bride Geetham : 9884858014

PILLAI 44 / 175cm BA Business Rich Avittam Chennai seeks Suitable Bride Geetham 9884858014

BRIDE WANTED Caste No Bar 30yrs BE, MS, Working in Australia Elite business family 9710093999/ 9710091999

HINDU NADAR, 26yrs, B.com, MBA, Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct: 9380791999/ 9841329471

SC AD 41/160Cms BE SWE in MNC Chennai 14L/Annum Seeking Suitable Qualified Employed Bride. Ph: 6360561521

NAIDU 33 B.Tech IT PGDM HR Caterpillar,Chennai Seeks Naidu(Any) Bride Well educated & employed 7305463164

HINDU KULALAR Widower 48/178,13Y Boy Grd 1Lpm Seek Loyal &UM Bride Blw 40Y Eq Caste 9840378219/ 9600105043

VANNIYAR, 39 yrs Govt job, Asst Professor, Coimbatore, salary 1 Lac, Middle class Family, Expectation good civilized family. WApp 9751551873

HINDU, CASTE no bar, 37 yrs, B.E, Engineer at California. Income 1 crore. Ph 8138900312

Hindu, Caste no bar, 35 Yrs, B.Tech, MBA, Business entrepreneur, Income 50 lakhs. Ph 8138901189

Hindu, Mudaliyar, 41 yrs, Divorced, MS , Management professional at Chennai, Income 1 Crore ph 8138901279

HINDU, NAIDU, 25 yrs, B.E, Business at Coimbatore, Income 20 Lakhs. Ph 8138901337

✔ **HINDU KULALAR**(UDAYAR) 44Y/ 169cm, M.Tech, Seeks Suitable Bride and caste no bar, Ph: 9384276066

SEEKS BRIDE 50 - 60 for a Widower 65 Sozhia Vellalar 50,000/- PM. Caste No Bar Residing at Trichy. Contact : 90803 98904

VANNIYAR 38/168 BE, 1.45L, Visagam4th, Working in TATA Group of Company Seeks Suitable Bride same Caste Contact: 99443- 30445 mpragathees@gmail.com

36 AGED boy Software Engineer Maruthuvar caste, Caste no bar. Contact 9840946146

SUITABLE MATCH required for Tamil Mudaliar boy' 94 working in USA (NYC) with a handsome salary (3cr and above) Kindly connect (080–69129253)

MUDALIAR 29/180, Handsome, MBBS, MD, Own Clinic, 3000000.PA, Affluent Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

HINDU BOY 30/175 working SWE Lyon France, looks for girl employed in France. Ct 9486104471

MUDHALIYAR, CA, Age–40, Never married, Star: Kettai, Own House, Well settled. Sub Caste ok. 9677622641

HINDU, MUDALIYAR, 40 yrs, Diploma, Program manager at chennai, income 10 Lakhs. Ct 8138900372.

HINDU, CHETTIAR, 49 yrs, Divorced, MS , CEO at Chennai, Income 1 Crore. Ct 8138901190.

TAMIL

HINDU, NAIDU, 28 yrs, B.E, Engineer at UAE, income 20 lakhs. Ct 8138900466.

HINDU, VISHWAKARMA, 28 yrs, MBBS, Doctor at Madurai, Income 6 Lakhs. Ct 8138900498.

HINDU, GRAMANI, 29 Yrs, 12th, Business at Vellore, Income 15 Lakhs. Ct 8138900316.

TAMIL IYENGAR Vadakalai Atherya Uttaradam 27/ 152 cms BE Working MNC Bangalore as Lead Application development 14 LPA seeks Bride. Contact: 9845143090 / 9900195090

IYENGAR SRIVATSA Gothram Nov 1991, BE MS MNC Upper Middle Class Chennai Seeks working Bride Ct:9840099945

BRAHMIN IYER Groom 43yrs /180cm, Pooradathi/ Meenam, TCS–Admin, Chennai. Seeks Suitable Bride. 9790827138

BRIDE WANTED
MS (CSE) 29/180, fair, good-looking, high-earning tech professional with established career and strong financial background based in Chennai, from a well settled, affluent Agamudayar family.
Seeking an educated, and family-oriented bride (below 28 yrs) from a good family background (CNB).
+91 78458 10913

WANTED BRIDE
Hindu Mudaliyar
We are seeking a loving & understanding life partner for a kind- hearted,
50+ Hindu Mudaliyar gentleman. He is a well established CEO of a reputed organization, a divorcee with no children
who deeply values family life and meaningful connections.
Our ideal bride would belong to the same community (sub-caste preferences are welcome), be single, educated & family-oriented, with a warm and caring nature.
She should hold strong family values and have a desire to build a loving and supportive partnership.
Email: narayananelu@yahoo.com
95517 32216

HINDU Sengunthar, Danusu/ Moolam Kanni Lagnam, 34/163, B.Tech., Bank Manager/Pvt. seeks Qualified Girl from respectable Family. Ct: 98403 51301

Pillai 29/180, Mtech Biotechnology, Research Scientist at Ahmedabad seeks Educated Employed Bride Contact: 9442649298

TAMIL

BE IIT Mudaliar Height 188cm born Nov 91, MNC Hyderabad Sal 75 lacs seeks Bride Contact: 7382620365

TELUGU

TELUGU DEVANGAR, 32/167cms (Divorcee), MS (SWE), Chennai, Seeks Bride for 2nd marriage Contact:9380882648

TELUGU DEVANGAR DOB:25/03/96, 165cm, MA, B.Ed Govt Teacher. Seeks Bride Caste noBar 9380882648/ 9626517261

NAIDU, 27/160cm V.Fair, B.E., MBA., TCS,Chennai seeks Fair,well Educated Bride from Gd Family. Ct: 99520 57740

URDU

Working as Assistant Vice President (AVP) to a Branch for a leading Private Bank based in Tamil N duAge 39, Sheikh / Urdu , Divorced & no Children Looking for a bride with both Family and Religious value. Please Contact: 97909 02084

AHLE HADEES Muslim Urdu, 26 Yrs, 176cm, M.Sc (UK), from Well Settled Religious Family. Looking Graduate Bride from well settled Family, Preferably from Chennai. Ct: 9940137445

✔ **SMU BOY** 34/177 Very fair MBA Central Govt Bank Employee, seeks SMU Girl fair religious & educated from decent family, should be willing to relocate at Hyderabad. Send Biodata & Photo (WhatsApp/Call) 9963874404

URDU MUSLIM Parents looking Alliance for son Age 27, Business in Chennai Well Settled Family, Chennai Based Bride 9444011292

Urdu Labbai Muslim MTech boy 28/168 seeks slim fair religious non-working graduate Chennai girl contact - 8754487719

SUNNI MUSLIM, very Fair, Handsome Groom, MDS., FAM, 41/167cm, 1.5Lac P.M, own Clinic, Home Infra, Chennai seeks Educated, Beautiful, Poised girl Aged between 34 - 37yrs Immediate Marriage. Contact: 90422 77555

BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED

TAMIL

REDDIYAR : Brother 53 yrs Australian Citizen/ and Sister 49 yrs MBA Seeks suitable bride and groom Ct:9790634571 (whatsapp)

MARRIAGE BUREAU

US UK Canada All Caste Religion 1st Marriage Remarriage. Ct:8248757840

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BUSINESS

CHENNAI REALESTATE Co Need Investor/Partner Short Period Profit& Principal Return Min 10–100Cr 9841320006

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GENERAL

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MADRAS CANINE CLUB's Triple all Breeds Championship Dog Shows, Two Speciality Shows and Obedience Trails on 18th and 19th January 2025 at St. Bedes School Cricket Ground, Karneswar Pagoda Street, near Light House, Mylapore, Chennai-600004. For show Entries, Stalls, Contact: Secretary, Old No. 51, Seventh Cross Street, Shenoy Nagar West, Chennai-600030, Phone 044-26260693, Mob: 9884046278 if your Dog is Registered with KCI you could participate at the Dog Show.

INDUSTRIAL NEEDS

Cubbon Reads curators detained as large crowd turns up for Secret Santa

The curators were eventually released after submitting an apology letter to the authority

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A quiet Saturday gathering by the Cubbon Reads community took an unexpected turn when park authorities allegedly confiscated books and detained curators for hours, citing non-compliance with park regulations after a large crowd attended the event.

Cubbon Reads began over two years ago as an initiative where book enthusiasts gather at the park to read in solitude or small groups and later take pictures before dispersing. Over time, the initiative has gained nationwide traction, inspiring similar chapters across India.

Cubbon Reads began over two years ago as an initiative to encourage the habit of reading books. It has since gained nationwide traction, inspiring similar chapters in cities across India. FILE PHOTO

Book exchange

Saturday's event featured a Secret Santa book exchange, introduced last year. A curator, who requested anonymity, said that an unexpectedly large turnout drew the attention of park officials. According to an Instagram post by the community, the authorities allegedly demeaned the curators for not speaking Kannada, threatened to harm their careers, and warned of an FIR along with a ₹35,000 fine.

The curators were eventually released after submitting an apology letter. "This initiative has never been commercial. We want to work with the administration, not against them. Incidents like this threaten the entire movement," a member stated. Another curator added, "We just want a little more understanding. This is a peaceful gathering that promotes reading and community."

Officials from the Horticulture Department claimed they received complaints about park visitors damaging lawns and trees. However, they declined to comment on the specific incident.

The authorities allegedly demeaned the curators for not speaking Kannada, and warned of an FIR and imposing a fine of ₹35,000

S. Umesh Kumar, president of the Cubbon Park Walkers' Association, highlighted concerns over readers climbing trees or tying swings between them, which he deemed unsafe and damaging to the park's environment. "The authorities have provided chairs and benches for reading. The issue arises when individuals misuse the park's spaces, causing harm to its upkeep," he told *The Hindu*.

Action against Virat Kohli's pub for fire safety violations

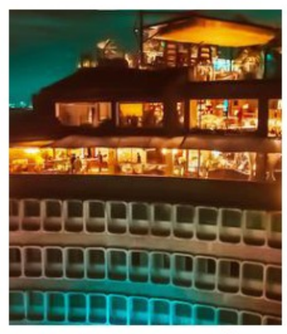
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

One8 Commune, a bar and restaurant co-owned by Indian cricketer Virat Kohli, has been warned of action by the Bengaluru civic body for allegedly functioning without the required permits, including NOC, from the Fire Department.

The BBMP letter, which has threatened of action if the establishment does not respond to it within seven days, has also alleged that an earlier communication too went unanswered.

The civic body's notice comes in the wake of a complaint by activists H.M. Venkatesh and Kunigal Narasimha Murthy, who have alleged that the restaurant lacks fire safety measures.

This is not the first time that the establishment has been in the news for the wrong reasons. Earlier this year, the Cubbon Park Police had registered cases after three bars and restaurants, including One8 Commune, were found to be operating beyond permissible hours.



One8 Commune in Bengaluru.

The pub was also found to be operating beyond permissible hours

Based on a tip-off, a police team had raided One8 Commune, situated at the Rathnam's Complex building on Kasturba Road near M.G. Road, around 2 a.m. on Saturday and found it fully operational.

The manager of the pub was booked under the Karnataka Police Act, 1963.

Veterinary doctor killed in road accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 22-year-old veterinary doctor was killed and her father injured when a speeding goods vehicle knocked down their scooter on M.G. Road in Chickballapur on Friday.

The police identified the deceased as Yogitha, who was doing her internship in Bengaluru after completing her course in Hassan district. The deceased was heading to Bengaluru for the internship and getting dropped by her father Muniraju. While they were crossing the road, a speeding vehicle knocked them down.

They fell on the ground, and Yogitha sustained severe head injuries. They were rushed to the hospital, where the doctor declared Yogitha as brought dead. Both were not wearing helmets, a police officer said. The Chickballapur police have registered a case of rash and negligent driving

Arrest warrant issued against Robin Uthappa

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An arrest warrant has been issued against former India cricketer Robin Uthappa in an alleged Provident Fund (PF) cheating case.

The warrant was issued by PF Regional Commissioner Shadakshari Gopal Reddy, who has asked the jurisdictional Pulakeshinagar Police to take necessary action. "The warrant, which was executed on December 4, has been returned after Mr. Uthappa was found not to be at the Pulakeshinagar residence,"

Robin Uthappa

officials said. However, it is well known that the cricketer and his family now live in Dubai. Mr. Uthappa, who is associated with Centuries Lifestyle Brand Private Limited, is accused of deducting PF contributions from employee salaries, but allegedly failing to deposit the funds into their respective accounts.

"In this connection, it is kindly requested to arrest the employer under Rule 73 of IInd Schedule to Income Tax Act 1961 and Income Tax (CP) Rule 1962 and Section 8B of Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, and produce him before the undersigned on or before 27.12.2024 for further proceedings through your official."

The order stated, "In exercise of the power conferred on me under section 8B of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952,...command you to arrest the said defaulter and bring him before the undersigned as soon as practicable and in any event within 24 hours of his arrest [exclusive of the time required for the journey] unless the defaulter pays the said amount of ₹23,36,602 and ₹5,000 for the cost of executing this process." However, a senior police officer said, "The address mentioned in the arrest warrant issued by the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner is an old one, and the concerned person does not stay at this address anymore. Our team had gone to the given address and verified. As per the information, he vacated the mentioned address over a year ago. We have informed the same to concerned officer. Further decision will be taken by the concerned authority which issued the arrest warrant."

(With inputs from PTI)

Fraudsters hack MSIL login credentials, buy air tickets

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Division cybercrime police have registered a case against an unidentified man who purchased 17 air tickets on December 17 by misusing Mysore Sales International Limited's login credentials.

Two days later, admin staff checked their websites and realised that 11 out of 17 tickets had already been used to fly to Dubai from Mumbai, while three of them had come from Dubai to India. The administration immediately blocked the remaining three tickets, which were scheduled from Delhi to Dubai. Ravikumar K., an admin staff member of the MSIL, told the police that the company incurred a loss of ₹2.8 lakh due to this online fraud. In his complaint, the complainant also shared the mobile numbers and email ID used by the suspect to book the tickets from the company ID.

Due to this online fraud, the company incurred a loss of ₹2.8 lakh. REUTERS

Based on the complaint, police have initiated investigations and sought the details of the passengers who travelled with the stolen tickets.

Alliance University convocation today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Alliance University will host its 13th convocation for the 2023-24 batch on Sunday. P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, Governor of Goa, will be the chief guest. The event will be held at the Alliance University's Central Campus, Chikkahadage Cross, Chandapura-Anekal Main Road, at 9 a.m.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, DEC. 22		
RISE	06:37	SET 17:59
RISE	00:00	SET 11:55
MONDAY, DEC. 23		
RISE	06:38	SET 18:00
RISE	00:12	SET 12:28
TUESDAY, DEC. 24		
RISE	06:38	SET 18:00
RISE	00:57	SET 13:02

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	28	22
Mysuru	29	19
Bengaluru	30	19

Bengaluru Today
28°C Morning will be slight cool. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Mostly dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be cool with mist and haze. The day will be comfortable. Night will be slight cool. Mostly dry weather to prevail.

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THE HINDU
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Branch manager of private bank among four arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The east division cyber crime police busted an online fraud racket and arrested four persons, including the branch manager of a private bank, in Rajkot in Gujarat in connection with accessing a payment gateway company's website to withdraw ₹12.5 crore within two days.

CRED, having their corporate nodal account at AXIS bank Indiranagar branch in Bengaluru, filed a complaint that they lost ₹12.5 crore from their account after the accused allegedly took access to their account by using fake CIB request form with the directors' fake signature.

One of main accused is Vaibhav Pitadia, who was working in Axis Bank's corporate section in Rajkot. Based on his information, the police team arrested his associates, Shailesh from Rajkot, Nehaben and Shubham from Surat.

Investigation revealed that Vaibhav used his associates to create several mule accounts to transfer the money online which was later withdrawn and used personally. The officials have seized the bank accounts and efforts are on to recover the money.

Golden Chariot train relaunched

Minister of Tourism H.K. Patil and Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh during the flagging off ceremony of Golden Chariot at Yeshwantpur Railway Station. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka's luxury train, The Golden Chariot, was relaunched at the Yesvantpur Railway Station on Saturday. Karnataka Tourism Minister H.K. Patil flagged off the train.

Originally launched on January 23, 2008, by then-President Pratibha Patil, the Golden Chariot initially succeeded with luxury trips across southern India, but operational challenges like expensive running costs and less than full patronage have placed the train in a hiatus mode since 2018.

Under the Bharat Gaurav Train policy, the operational arrangements between the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) and IRCTC were revised, paving the way for the train's relaunch.

The Golden Chariot offers curated journeys like '*Jewel of the South*,' '*Pride of Karnataka*,' '*Glimpse of Karnataka*,' and chartered trips under '*Sojourn of the South*'.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Patil expressed pride in the train's revival. "The Golden Chariot carries the essence of Karnataka's culture, history, and nature, providing a special luxury experience," he remarked.

The train features 44 cabins with en-suite bathrooms, two gourmet restaurants, a lounge bar, a spa, and a fitness center.

Blend of heritage

An IRCTC representative emphasized the blend of opulence and heritage, aiming to attract both domestic and international travelers.

Jewels of the South will begin its sojourn from December 21 to 26 and cost ₹4.07 lakh per ticket, *Pride of Karnataka* will be organised from February 1 to 6 and cost ₹2.71 Lakh.

Sojourn of the South will be a chartered trip from December 29 to February 12.

Avare Mela@25: A means to prevent food wastage turned into one of Bengaluru's biggest food festivals

What started on a small scale in 2000 has now grown into a big event. The previous edition saw a footfall of around 4 lakh

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

It was the year 1995 in Bengaluru when farmers from Magadi used to bring *avarekayi* and *avare bele* to sell them in the southern parts of the city. Almost 50% of what they used to bring would go to waste as the bean was not popular among the residents here.

Noticing that the farmers were throwing the peeled beans (*hidkid bele*) away after wrapping up their business for the day, Geetha Shivakumar, a nearby resident, asked them to sell whatever was remaining to her so that she could make food items out of it. She made savouries out of avare and started selling it under the brand of Shree Vasavi Condiments.

Five years later, in 2000, Ms. Shivakumar came up with the idea of organising a small mela with food items made of avare to benefit and celebrate the farmers from whom she had been shopping. Avare nippattu, chikki, mixture and avarekaalu saaru were some of the star dishes during the mela. And thus, Avare Mela, one of Bengaluru's most awaited food events in recent times, was born.

A file photo of Avarebele Mela. This year's edition will be held from December 27. FILE PHOTO

The Mela has now hit a landmark with its 25th edition being organised from December 27, 2024, to January 5, 2025, at National College grounds.

The first Avare Mela had around 10 dishes served and now for the 25th edition, a total of 125 dishes will be served. "We have this ritual where we add one new dish to the menu every year. With this being the 25th year, we have added 25 new dishes including avarekaalu mayonnaise, avarekaalu pasta and avarekaalu chocolate. We have a gourmet menu and a bakery menu all featuring avare," shared Swathi. K. S., daughter of Ms. Shivakumar and organiser of the Mela.

What started as a small event with four farmers has now grown into a massive event whose footfall was around four lakh in the previous edition with over 500 farmers providing avare.

Vasanna, a farmer from Magadi, was one of the first four and is still supplying the beans for the Mela. Travelling down memory lane, he said, "Back then people in Bengaluru did not know any recipes of avare except avarekaalu saaru. If we brought 100 seru (measuring devices) of avare bele, we would throw away almost 50 seru. Then our association with Vasavi Condiments started. A kg of avare bele used to be priced at ₹20 - 25 in the 2000s and now, the same quantity is selling at ₹250 - 300 per kg, almost 10 times more. While the quantity of avare bele used in the mela used to be around 300 - 500 kgs before, now it is in tonnes."

Over the years, the Mela was held around the popular food street in V. V. Puram until 2023 when it moved to National College Grounds owing to the growing crowd.

She added, "There is a lot of people who work behind the scenes to bring avare to the tables in Bengaluru. There is no chemical or machine to help with the peeling of avarekayi. Women do it in their houses and then it comes to the market. We want people to know about their efforts."

New purpose: Rotten vegetables from the wholesale market being dumped at the waste-to-power plant.

Power supply: Workers feed stale vegetables into the conveyor belt at the waster-to-power plant.

Safety check: Engineers monitor a reactor at the waste-to-power plant. Careful checks are done to curb breakdowns.

Thriving business: A market yard canteen that is fuelled and powered by the waste-to-power plant.

Self-reliant: Electricity from the waste-to-power plant lights up a yard at the market.

6 of family killed as container truck topples on car on NH-4

Traffic disrupted for over two hours as police pull the damaged vehicles off the road

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A crane being used to remove the mangled car from the road on the Begur-Nelamangala highway on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Six persons belonging to a family were killed and two injured when a goods container truck toppled on their car on Begur-Nelamangala highway on Saturday morning. Two more vehicles collided with each other following the accident.

The deceased are Chandram Yagappagol, 48; his wife Goura Bai, 42; daughter Deeksha, 12; son Gyaan, 16; sister-in-law Vijayalakshmi, 36; and nephew Arya, 6.

According to the police, Chandram was the director of a tech company in Bengaluru (IAST Software Solutions Pvt. Ltd.) and a resident of HSR Layout. He recently expanded his operations to Pune.

Chandram had purchased a new car and was taking the family to his native Morbagi village in Maharashtra's Sangli district, which borders Vijayapura district in Karnataka, to visit his ailing father during the Christmas break.

The incident occurred when the goods container truck coming from the opposite direction lost control, jumped the median, and crashed into the goods vehicle ahead of the car. The truck then toppled right onto the car.

Owing to the impact, all six persons died on the spot, and the police later used three cranes to pull out the container to recover the bodies.

Traffic on the national highway-4 was disrupted for over two hours while the police struggled to pull the damaged vehicles off the road. Two truck drivers were also injured..

Probe on

Initial probe revealed the truck was speeding, and the driver lost control and crashed into the divider.

Five persons killed in two accidents in Mandya district

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Five persons were killed in two separate accidents in Mandya district on Saturday.

Three engineering students from Bengaluru died on the spot when the vehicle by which they were travelling collided with a truck near Nagegowdana Doddi in Malavalli taluk of Mandya district, on Saturday.

The deceased were identified as Pranav, Akash, and Adarsh, students of Bangalore Institute of Technology while another student Prithvi, sustained grievous injuries and his condition is said to be critical.

All the four were on their way to Talakad in T. Narispur taluk of Mysuru district when the accident took place.

The police said the accident occurred when the car collided with a truck coming from Kollegal, resulting in the death of the three students on the spot.

In another mishap near Mahadeshwarpura near Pandavapura in Mandya district, two women died when their two-wheeler was knocked down by an onion-laden truck.

The victims were identified as Shilpashree, 34, and Sandhya, 17, a II PU student, and both belonged to Neelanahalli village.

Sandhya's mother Shailaja has been injured. The Melkote police have registered a case.

Youth festival begins

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 38th Association of Indian Universities Inter-University South East Zone Youth Festival titled CRESCENDO 2024, organised by the Kengeri campus of the Christ (Deemed to be University) began on December 19.

THE HINDU
MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2010
THE HINDU
INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878
AIADMK PLOY FOR 'PUBLICITY'
BRAZIL GOES TO THE POLLS
ANSARI IN BRUSSELS
AUSTRALIA TAKES LEAD
Commonwealth Games off to colourful start
Pratibha Patil declares Games open; Prince Charles reads out a message from the Queen
"Rama's birthplace traced, but not Raja Raja's memorial"
Chief Minister's poser on verdict
Elevated bus corridor alignment modified
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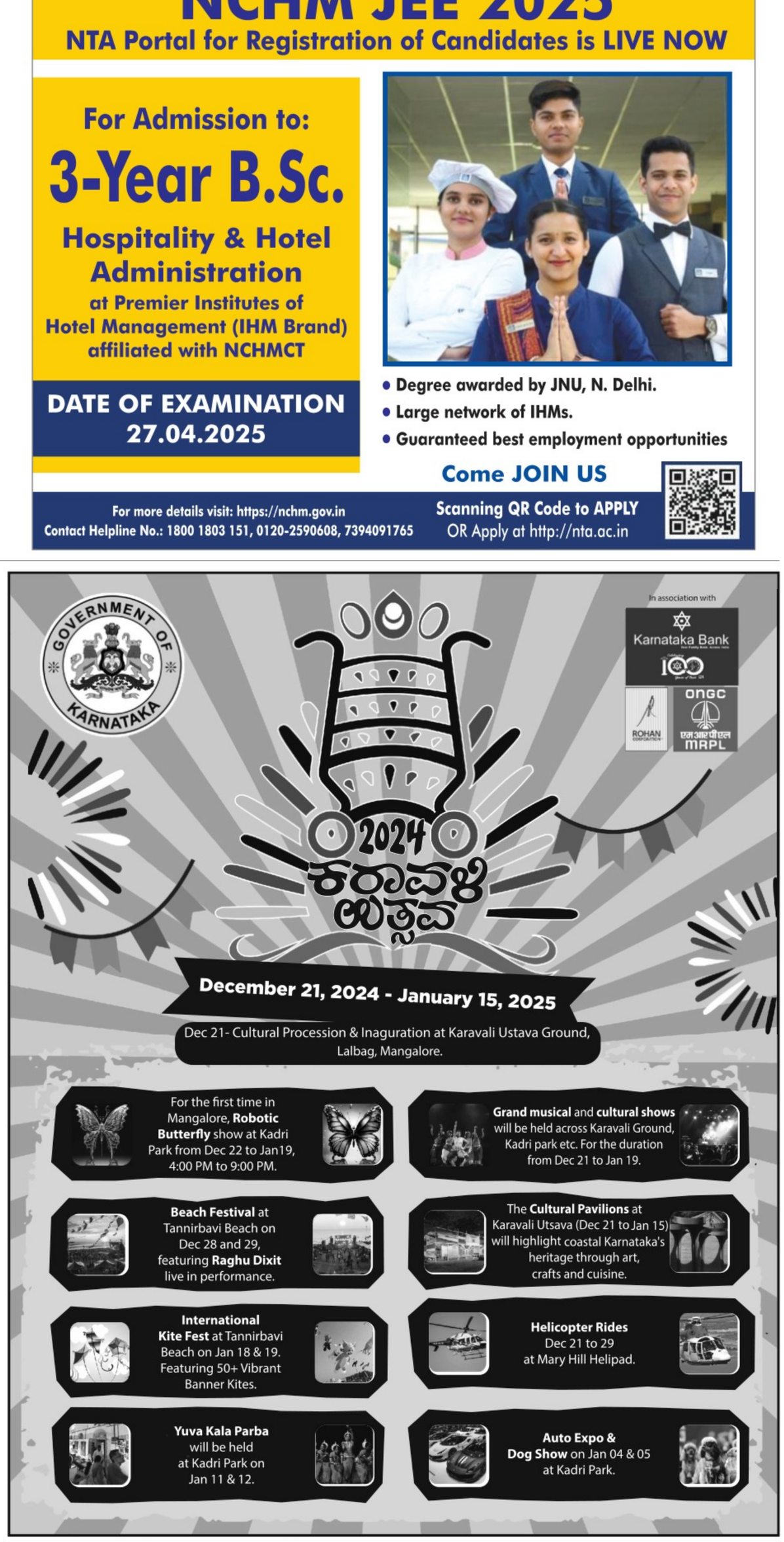
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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
In association with
Karnataka Bank
ROHAN
ONGC
MRPL
2024
ಕರಾವಳಿ ಉತ್ಸವ
December 21, 2024 - January 15, 2025
Dec 21- Cultural Procession & Inauguration at Karavali Ustava Ground, Lalbag, Mangalore.
For the first time in Mangalore, Robotic Butterfly show at Kadri Park from Dec 22 to Jan19, 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM.
Grand musical and cultural shows will be held across Karavali Ground, Kadri park etc. For the duration from Dec 21 to Jan 19.
Beach Festival at Tannirbavi Beach on Dec 28 and 29, featuring Raghu Dixit live in performance.
The Cultural Pavilions at Karavali Utsava (Dec 21 to Jan 15) will highlight coastal Karnataka's heritage through art, crafts and cuisine.
International Kite Fest at Tannirbavi Beach on Jan 18 & 19. Featuring 50+ Vibrant Banner Kites.
Helicopter Rides Dec 21 to 29 at Mary Hill Helipad.
Yuva Kala Parba will be held at Kadri Park on Jan 11 & 12.
Auto Expo & Dog Show on Jan 04 & 05 at Kadri Park.

KARNATAKA STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD

No.16, 2nd Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560001
PH: 080-22867369 E-mail: cgmksamb@gmail.com
https://krishimaratavahini.karnataka.gov.in

Tender No:KSAMB/Div/Proc/F.No.52/2467/2024-25 Date : 21.12.2024

Short-term e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka State Agricultural Marketing Board is inviting short term tender for Handling and Transportation of Kharif / Rabi Paddy, Ragi and Jowar to be procured under Price Support Scheme of 2024-25 in Mysuru, Vijayanagar, Ballari, Belagavi, Raichuru and Kodagu Districts. More information in this regard can be obtained from **www.kppp.karanataka.gov.in** portal vide indent No: **APMC/2024-25/SE0538.** The Last date for submission of Bids is **31.12.2024.**

Sd/-
Chief General Manager
K.S.A.M.B., Bangalore

DIPR/CP/SSC/3895/2024-25

Office of the Executive Engineer Road Construction Department, Road Division,Garhwa.

e-Procurement Notice (Very Short Tender)

Tender Reference No. : RCD/GARHWA/1536/2024-25
Date:-21.12.2024

1.	Name of the work	Construction of one block (6 unit) 'C' Type Quarter Building under Road Division, Garhwa
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Rs. 1,80,00,000.00 (One Crore Eighty Lac) only.
3.	Bid Security (Amount)	Rs. 3,60,000.00 (Three Lacs Sixty Thousand Only)
4.	Time of Completion	Till 28.03.2025
5.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	24.12.2024 from 10.30 A.M.
6.	Last date/Time for receipt of bids	31.12.2024 Up to 12.00 Noon
7.	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer, RCD, Road Division, Garhwa
8.	Contact no. of Procurement officer	06561-295161
9.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	0651-2401010

Note :-(1) The Bid Amount & Bid security Amount may decrease or increase.
(2)Contractor registered under R.C.D Jharkhand and also registered in **UCAN PORTEL** can only participate in this tender.
Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

Executive Engineer,
Road Construction Department,
Road Division,Garhwa.

PR 342589 Road(24-25).D

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION

(Through KPP Portal Only) (Two Cover System)

KPCL invites sealed bids through GoK KPP Portal platform **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from the qualified bidders for the following works **1) No.:KPCL/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT2410 Date:19.12.2024:** "Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 4 Nos. 2.0 TR and 1 No. 1.5 TR capacity split air conditioners of reputed make, minimum 3 star rating along with the connected accessories at the Registered Office, KPCL, Shakthi Bhavan, Bengaluru and 1 No. 1.5 TR capacity split air conditioners of reputed make, minimum 3 star rating along with the connected accessories at the KPCL Office, RK Puram, Phase 2, New Delhi". Last date for receipt of completed bids, both Technical bid(Cover-1) and Price Bid (Cover-2) is **04.01.2025 upto 17.30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer RO(EM), KPCL, Shakthi Bhavan, #82, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001, Karnataka State.** Contact Nos.: 91-80-22203716 / +91- 9141609653. E-mail : seeroemkpcl@karnataka.gov.in
2) No.:KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT1887/Call-3 Date:16.12.2024: "Restoration of Raichur Thermal Power Station - Unit # 1 (210MW), Dismantling of damaged structures, Replacement, Detailed Design, Engineering, Supply, Erection, testing, Commissioning and Sychronisation of the Unit. Further details can be had from the **Chief Engineer(Thermal Designs), KPCL, No. 3, 2nd Floor, Green Building, (Drugs Control Department premises), Palace Road, Bengaluru-560 001**. Contact Nos. : 9448436926 / 9448815922 / 9449598864. E-mail : kpclcetd@gmail.com / cetdrmul@gmail.com

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD

3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Notification No: KHB/CE/AEF/Highrise building/KHB/2024-25/SE0218 Dated: 21.12.2024
Karnataka Housing Board invites tender through KPP Portal for appointment of Architectural Engineering Firm (AEF) for the work of Construction of Highrise Residential Buidling at Sadashivanagara.
Last date for submission of bid is on 04.01.2025 upto 4.00 PM
For further information contact below mentioned office address:
Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board,
Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Tel: 080-22273511
Web site: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/CP/3917/AKAR/2024-25 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru**

INSTITUTE OF LIVER & BILIARY SCIENCES (ILBS)

"CAREER OPPORTUNITIES"
Faculty & Non Faculty posts
(ILBS/Careers/5/24)

Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) is an autonomous super-specialty Institute of excellence under GNCT of Delhi and **a Deemed-to-be- University by the GOI. Its vision is to be a global leader** by becoming a beacon of patient care, teaching and research in the field of Liver, Pancreatobiliary, Renal, Oncology and Organ Transplantation. All appointments shall be on "contract basis" and will initially be for a period of "four years" (except for Residents) and can be extended based on performance. In its search for the best talent, ILBS invites applications for the following positions including backlog:

S. No	Name of Post	Number of Posts
(A) SPECIAL DRIVE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES * Backlog		
1.	Senior Resident (Radiology-01, Hepatology -01)	2*- OH
2.	Junior Resident	2* - OH
3.	Resident Medical Officer	1* - OH
4.	Assistant Manager Nurse	1*- OH
5.	Junior Nurse	4*- OH
6.	Executive Nurse	9*- OH
7.	Jr. Executive Nurse	6*- OH
(B) APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR UR, OBC, EWS, SC & ST CATEGORY		
8.	Professor (Anaesthesia)	1-UR, 1-OBC
9.	Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
10.	Professor (Radiology)	1-UR
11.	Professor (AI Health & Research)	1-UR
12.	Professor (Pediatric Hepatology)	1-UR
13.	Additional Professor (Radiology)	1-UR
14.	Additional Professor (Anaesthesia)	1-UR
15.	Associate Professor (Hepatology)	1-UR, 1-OBC
16.	Associate Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
17.	Associate Professor (Cardiology)	1-UR
18.	Associate Professor (Radiology)	2-UR, 1-OBC
19.	Associate Professor (Renal Transplant)	1-UR
20.	Associate Professor (Metabolic Medicine)	1-UR
21.	Associate Professor (Pulmonary Medicine)	1-UR
22.	Associate Professor (Data Scientist – AI Health)	1-UR
23.	Assistant Professor (Hepatology)	2-UR, 1-OBC, 1-SC
24.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Nutrition) Medical	1-UR
25.	Assistant Professor (Radiology)	1-UR, 1-OBC
26.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Genetics)	1-UR
27.	Assistant Professor (Interventional Radiology)	1-UR
28.	Assistant Professor (Gen AI Developer – Healthcare Software)	2-UR
29.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Hematology)	1-UR
30.	Consultant (Medical Oncology) Grade III, IV	2-UR, 1-OBC
31.	Consultant (Radiology) Grade III, IV	1-UR, 1-OBC
32.	Consultant (Neurology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
33.	Consultant (Liver Transplant Surgery) Grade II	1-UR
34.	Consultant (Cardiology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
35.	Consultant (Pulmonary Medicine) Grade III	1-UR
36.	Consultant (Renal Transplant) Grade IV	1-UR
37.	Consultant (Clinical Hematology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
38.	Sr. Resident (Hepatology, Nephrology, Radiology, Medical Oncology, Pulmonary Medicine, Neurology, Renal Transplant)	8-UR, 5*-OBC, 2-SC, 1-ST, 1-EWS
39.	Dy. Head Operations (Medical)	1-UR
40.	Assistant Head Operations (Medical)	1-UR
41.	Registrar	1-UR
42.	Manager (Nursing)	1-UR
43.	Dy. Manager (Purchase)	1-UR
44.	Chief Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-UR
45.	Sr. Technical Executive (Nuclear Medicine) or RSO for high dose Therapy	1-UR
46.	Technical Executive (Nuclear Medicine) or RSO II	1-UR
47.	Jr. Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-UR
48.	Executive (Security & Fire)	1-UR
49.	Executive Nurse	31*-OBC, 13*-EWS
50.	Resident Hospital Administrator	2-UR, 3*-OBC

* backlog

Last Date: 25th January, 2025. For further details, eligibility criteria and recruitment rules please visit **http://www.ilbs.in**

Head Operations (Non Medical) , ILBS

"HEALTHY LIVER – HEALTHY INDIA"
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KARNATAKA HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Head Office, Priyadarshini Nekar Bhavana,
1st Floor, Opp. K. H. Patil College, Vidyanagar,
Hubli-580031, Mob. : 91135 44219, E-mail : mpkhdchbl@gmail.com

No. : K.H.D.C./M.D./M.P.C./2024-25 Date : 21-12-2024

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Managing Director, Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation Limited invites e-tender under Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act - 1999 from reputed for providing **Technical Supervisors, Computer Operators, Accounts Clerk, Sales Assistants, Divers, Security Guard, Attender, Sweepers and Labours** on outsource basis, through e- procurement platform.

Instructions : 1) E-Tender Amount Rs. 4.26 Crores, 2) EMD Amount of Rs. 6.40 lakhs (3) Pre-Bid Meeting on : 26-12-2024 at 11.00 a.m., (4) Last Date for Submission of applications : 06-01-2025 at 5.30 p.m., (5) Opening of Technical Bid on : 08-01-2025 at 11.00 a.m., (6) Opening of Financial Bid on : 09-01-2025 at 11.00 a.m.

For further information manpower supplying agencies may contact Production Manager (Cotton) Mobile No. : 91135 44219 or you http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in may visit e-procurement website

Sd/- Managing Director.

DIPR/Dharwad/771/Manipal/2024-25

Bank of Baroda

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda
(A Government of India Undertaking)
DABASPET BRANCH
, Madhugiri Road Near Police Station Bengaluru Rural, Karnataka 562111
Phone: 080-27734233, E-mail: vjdaba@bankofbaroda.com, www.bankofbaroda.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of the **Bank Of Baroda Dabaspet Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Ordinance Act, 2002 (Ord. 3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **17/09/2024** calling upon the borrower : **M C Balaram** S/o Chikkanarasaiah #136, 2nd Floor, NCB Complex, V V Puram, B H Road, Nelamangala, Bangalore-562123 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.31,75,224/- (Rupees Thirty one lakhs Seventy Five thousand two hundred twenty four Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Ordinance Act read with rule 9 of the said rules on this **20th Day December of 2024.**
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of Baroda, Dabaspet Branch** for an amount of **Rs.31,75,224/-** (Rupees Thirty one lakhs Seventy Five thousand two hundred twenty four Only) and interest thereon.

Description of the Immovable Property

(1) All the piece and parcel of commercial Shops Consisting of Ground floor and first floor and Residential house consisting of 3rd Floor Constructed in Site Khatha No.136 E-Swathu 150300701100900224 measuring 20*22+30/2 and Bounded by: East: Road West: Property belongs to Basavaraju North: Road, South: House belongs to Hanumaiah (Property belongs to Shri. M C Balaram S/o Chikkanarasaiah).
(2) All the piece and parcel Khata No. 46/2 measuring 20*30=600 sq ft V V Puram Nelamangal Taluk, Bangalore Rural-562123 E-Swathu 150300701100900080 Bounded by: East: Property of Balaram West: Conservancy North: Road South: House of Anjinappa (property belongs to Smt. Hemavathi W/o M C Balaram).

Place : Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Date : 20.12.2024 **Bank of Baroda**

City Municipal Council, Bhadravathi

Tarikere Road, Bhadravathi, Shivamogga District.
Phone: 08282-266356,
Email: itstaff_ulb_bhadravathi@yahoo.com,
Web: www.bhadravathicity.mrc.gov.in
No/CMC/BDVT/WS/12 MLD/CR/03/24-25 Date: 19.12.2024

Tender Notice (Through e-procurement)

Complete Repairs of 12 MLD Capacity with latest Technology (Israel Model) Optic Fiber Media Water Purifying Unit. Re.

Tender is invited through e-procurement portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act for undertaking complete repair works of 12 MLD Capacity with latest Technology (Israel Model) Optic Fiber Media Water Purifying Unit of City Municipal Council, Bhadravathi from firms with experience of installation and maintenance of Units with similar technologies. Agencies/Firms interested in participating in the tender can obtain details of eligibility criteria and conditions, etc. through e-procurement portal http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in within 4.00 PM on 02.01.2025.

Package No. 1. Details Work: Complete Repairs of 12 MLD Capacity with latest Technology (Israel Model) Optic Fiber Media Water Purifying Unit. Re **Amount Put to Tender (in Rs.):** 93,07,250 **E.M.D. Amount (in Rs.):** 1,86,145 **Time Period of Work:** 12 Months **Class of Contractor**: PWD Registered Class-3 Contractor

Tender Schedule: 1) Date of availability of tender on e-procurement website: 19-12-2024 **2)** Last date of Tender Submission 02-01-2025 **3)** Technical Bid Opening Date 04-01-2025 **4**) Financial Bid Opening Date: after approval of Technical bid

Sd/- Municipal Commissioner,
City Municipal Council, Bhadravathi

DIPR/smg/ksmca/143/12/1286

INNOVATE KARNATAKA — K-tech

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Tender No.: ITBTST/2024-25/SE0012/CALL-2

Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), Department of Electronics, IT and Bt intends **to Select an Event Curation and Management Agency (ECMA) for Organizing - GAFX. GAFX is an annual flagship event of** Department of E, IT & Bt **which promotes Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics - extended reality Sector in Karnataka.** n this regard, KITS invites proposals from the qualified agencies in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP).
The interested agencies are required to download the electronic copy of the Request for Proposals and upload the proposal (in PDF format) on Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in through the bidder's Digital Signature Centre (DSC).
Any notices/information related to this Request for Proposals in the future shall be available on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only.
Refer to the Request for Proposal document for eligibility criteria and other conditions. The deadline for submission is on or before **30.12.2024 by 4.00 P.M.**

Sd/-
Managing Director
KITS

For further clarifications, please contact:
Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society [KITS]
Department of Electronics, IT and Bt, GoK
BKG Sapphire, 59, Railway Parallel Road,
Kumara Park West, Bengaluru 560020

DIPR/CP/3918/AKAR/2024-25

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
www:eepwdmys21@gmail.com
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ ನಂ: 0821–2420810

ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ:18/2024–25
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20–12–2024

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರಿಂದ ಈ ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ನಂ.2 ವಿಶೇಷ ಉಪ ವಿಭಾಗ ಮೈಸೂರಿನ ಒಟ್ಟು 1 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–4ರ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ವಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ನಿಯಮ 2000 ರಂತೆ ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟ್‌ಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿರುವ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ 1ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟ್‌ಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ (viz https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/) 21.12.2024 ರಿಂದ 09.01.2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 17:00ರ ವರೆಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.571.20 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ರೂ8.57 ಲಕ್ಷ ಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ದಿ: 30.12.2024 ರಂದು ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಕ್ಕೆ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು ಬೇಕಾದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಅಥವಾ ಮಾರ್ಪಾಡುಗಳಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟ್‌ಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್

DIPR/DDMYS/992/KSMCA/668/2024-25

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase the following lands totally measuring about 5 Acres situated in **Billapura Village, Sarjapura 1 Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District**:

Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent		Owners
		Acres	Guntas	
1.	28/4	1	18	**B.Y.Perumaiah, son of late Yellappa**
2.	35/3	1	12	
3.	74/2	1	06	**(i) Rajamma, Rathnamma, B.M. Krishnappa, B.M. Ananth Kumar and Anitha,** all children of late Munnivenkatappa, son of late Yellappa. **(ii) Ramaiah, son of late Yellappa. (iii) Perumayya B. Y., son of late Yellappa. (iV) Muniyappa, son of late Yellappa.**
4.	74/5	1	04	
Total:		**5**	**00**	

The aforementioned Owners have represented that they are the absolute owners of the Schedule Properties and that the Schedule Properties are not the subject matter of any subsisting and valid mortgage, lien or charge in favour of anyone and that there are no subsisting and valid agreements for sale, Development Agreements or the like executed by the Owners in respect of the Schedule Properties.
If any person has any right to, interest in or claim against the Schedule Properties including but not limited to any encumbrance thereon by way of a charge, mortgage or lien or being a party to any Agreement for Sale, Development Agreements or the like in respect of the Schedule Properties or any part thereof, may, within **7 (seven) days** hereof submit to us such claim together with documentary proof in support thereof, failing which, it shall be presumed that there are no encumbrances, charges or lien or any valid and subsisting Agreements for Sale, Development Agreements or the like in respect of the Schedule Properties.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Lands situated in Billapura Village, Sarjapura 1 Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District:

Sl. No.	Sy.No.	Extent		Boundaries			
		Acres	Guntas	East	West	North	South
1.	28/4	1	18	Survey No.26	Survey Nos. 35/2 and 28/2	Survey No.28/3	Survey No.35/4 and Survey 35/14
2.	35/3	1	12	Survey No.26	Survey Nos. 28/2 and 35/2	Survey Nos.28/4	Survey Nos.35/3
3.	74/2	1	06	Survey No.59/6 and 59/2.	Survey No. 74/1A.	Survey No.103.	Survey No.74/1A.
4.	74/5	1	04	Survey Nos. 74/1A, 74/1A2, and 74/1A3.	Survey Nos. 72/1, 74/2 and 74/3.	Survey Nos.74/1A.	Survey Nos.74/4A.
Total:		**5**	**00**				

BANGALORE
DATE: 22th December, 2024

SMITHA R.B
KING & PARTRIDGE, ADVOCATES,
No.48, Lavelle Road,
Bangalore-560001. PH: 080 22212341/42.

Government of Karnataka

Assistant Conservator of Forests, Channagiri Sub Division, Channagiri.

No.: ACF: Channagiri:Tender.C.R-03/24-25 Date: 17.12.2024

(Through e-Procurement Portal)

Tender Call-2 is invited through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal from eligible contractors for implementing works related to Digging Advance Holes and Growing and Maintenance of Saplings in various zones in the limits of Bhadravathi Forest Division for the year 2024-25 fixing time up to 4.00 PM on 26.12.2024. For Tender conditions and further information this office can be contacted during office hours and details regarding the Tender can be obtained from the official website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Approximate amount of work: Rs. 136.85000 lakhs.

1. Works of Digging Advance Holes and Growing and Maintenance of Saplings *) Last date for Tender Submission: 26.12.2024, 16.00 Hrs. *) Date of opening Technical Bid: 27.12.2024, 16.30 Hrs. *) Date of opening Financial Bid 27.12.2024, 17.00 Hrs.

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests,
Channagiri Sub Division, Channagiri.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/24-25/138/12/1283

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (www.kpwd.gov.in)

Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Special Division, Shivamogga Ph: 08182-222943
Email ID: spdivision@gmail.com

Short-term Tender Notification (Two-cover system) (Through KPP portal)

IFT No. 29/2024-25 **Date: 20.12.2024**

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Shimoga Special Division, invites tenders as per K.T.P.P act 2000, in standard Bid document K/W-3 (two cover system) Contractors has registered in PWD Department Class-3 & above can apply work Construction of Office for District Incharge Minister at Shivamogga (INDENT-16806)under head of account 4059-80-051-0-29-386-Departmental Building Construction for Amount put to tender is. Rs.78.06 Lakhs & EMD amount is Rs. 1.562 lakhs. Time allowed for completion of work is 11 Months including Monsoon. The tenderers may submit tenders through KPPP- portal of the Government of Karnataka (viz., http://KPPP.karnataka.gov.in). The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Section -2 (Instructions to tenderers) of document, to qualify for award of the contract. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-Procurement portal from **20-12-2024** to **04-01-2025.** Last date for Receipt of Tender is on **04-01-2025** at **17.00 PM.** The Technical bid will be opened on **05-01-2025** at **05.30 PM** onwards and Financial bid will be opened after **06-01-2025** Onwards. If there any changes in publication, it will be publishing through E- Procurement only. For more information may be obtained from the office during working hours. Information published in Website is final.

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ./ಶಿ/ಸಂ.129–12/ಝೀಂಕಾರ್/2024–25

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Special Division, Shivamogga

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Byatarayanapura Division, No. 2152/20, Defence Colony, BWSSB Tank road, Sahakaranagar, BBMP Office, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru-560092.

No. EE/BTP/BBMP/KPPP/12/2024-25 Date: 20.12.2024

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

TWO COVER TENDER (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

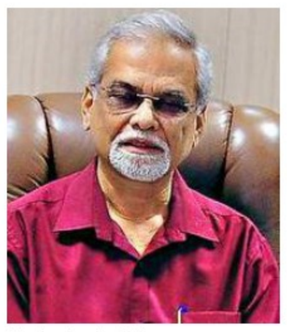
The Executive Engineer, Byatarayanapura Division, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BBMP invites Tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Govt. Organisations for the following works.

Sl.No.	Name of the Work
1	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 05, Kogilu (SC)
2	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 06, Jakkuru (Others).
3	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 07, Thanisandra (SC).
4	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 08, Amruthahalli (Others).
5	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 09, Hebbala Kempapura (ST).
6	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 10, Byatarayanapura (Others).
7	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 11, Kodigehalli (Others).
8	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 12, Doddabommasandra (Others).
9	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No. 13, Vidyaranyapura (Others).
10	Removal of silt & Other maintenance of roads and drains in New Ward No.14, Kuvempunagara (Others).

Approximate value of work : **Rs. 30.00 lakhs (for each work).** EMD: **Rs. 30,000/-** for Sl.No. 1, 3 & 5 and **Rs. 60,000/-** for Sl.No. 2, 4, 6 to 10.

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (2)** Date of Pre-bid Meeting **: 26.12.2024 at 3.00 pm at the above office. (3)** Last date for uploading the filled tender document : **31.12.2024 upto 4.00 pm. (4)** Date of opening of Technical bids : **02.01.2025 at 11.00 am, if possible. (5)** Date of opening of Financial bids : **03.01.2025 at 11.00 am, if possible.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Byatarayanapura Division



Mudnakudu Chinnaswamy

'Dalit, Bandaya literature made Kannada more holistic'

The Hindu Bureau
MANDYA

The Kannada literary world, which was one-sided until the 70s and 80s became more holistic by Dalit and Bandaya literature, said Kendra Sahitya Academy awardee writer Mudnakudu Chinnaswamy.

Speaking on Dalit literature at the 87th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in Mandya, he said: "Former Minister B. Basavalingappa called Kannada literature a 'boosa' (cow feed) which led to a serious rethink of the premise of literature and the rise of Dalit and Bandaya literature in Karnataka."

Basavalingappa had called Kannada literature 'boosa' because there were no literary works till then about the pain of downtrodden communities in Kannada literature. "Then, the Dalit movement and Dalit literature came together," he explained.

'DSS like university'

Speaking on the topic 'Dalit literary movement and women,' Jayadevi Gaikwad said: "The Dalit Sangharsh Samitis (DSS) of Karnataka are like a university. In addition to Dalit issues, DSS has fought on many burning issues of the State, including farmers and labourers and others. They have also been fighting against atrocities and injustices against women," she said.

Remark condemned

She condemned Union Home Minister Amit Shah's derogatory remarks about B.R. Ambedkar in Parliament recently and said that, at such times, "we women must remember Ambedkar's contributions and we strongly stand by him."

Literary community shouldn't treat politicians like untouchables: H.K. Patil

Jayanth R.
MANDYA

Minister of Law, Parliamentary Affairs, H.K. Patil, said, "The speeches and writings made by politicians in public functions, including in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council, should also be considered literature."

He spoke at the 'Politics in Literature, Literature in Politics' session on Saturday, the second day of the 87th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana.

He accused the literary community of "treating politicians like untouchables". "Literature and politics are inextricably linked. Many of the issues and speeches advocated by politicians in Legislative Assemblies have all the characteristics of great literature. Many of the rulings made in Legislative Assemblies greatly impact society.

Many public speeches made by politicians have paved the way for the development of people's knowledge. Therefore, it is an insult to treat politicians like untouchables," he said.

Writer Go. Ru. Channabasappa releasing a book written by H.K. Patil at the 87th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in Mandya on Saturday. JAYANTH R.

AKHILA BHARATA KANNADA SAHITYA SAMMELANA

He said during the freedom movement, Mahatma Gandhi's public speeches were a new compass for the country. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's speeches instilled patriotism in the people. "When politics and politicians go astray, writers should warn them through their literature and bring them back on the right path.

Writer P. Lankesh has achieved this task. However, writers after him have lagged in this process. Therefore, writers and journalists should function like the watchdog of democracy," the Minister appealed.

Former MLA K. Annadani said literature and politics were inseparable. "Since the time of Pampa in the 10th century, Kannada literature has developed with the encouragement of the royal patronage. Basavanna was the Prime Minister in the court of Bijjala in the 12th century."

Politician B.L. Shankar said that in the 20th century, the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi and B.R. Ambedkar's vision and ideas had a great impact on the political system of the country. "From Ram Manohar Lohia to Veerappa Moily and Shashi Tharoor, many have written great literary works," he said.

Year of extremes: Ruthless summer to bountiful rains

From Jan. 1 to Dec. 18, Bengaluru Urban received 932 mm rainfall as against the normal 842 mm

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

Fire and Emergency Services personnel moving residents of Bhadrappa Layout to safety after heavy rains flooded the area on October 22, 2024.

Rewind 2024

For Bengalureans, 2024 was a year of extreme weather. It began with an intense summer marked by a sweltering heatwave and an unprecedented lack of pre-monsoon showers.

The India Meteorological Department had predicted a dry summer, but the complete absence of rainfall during the pre-monsoon season caught many by surprise.

Bengaluru, which typically receives 205.1 mm of rainfall during March, April, and May, recorded no rain. "This phenomenon was last observed in 1983. Since then, there has been rainfall in April every year," said an IMD official.

The normal temperatures for Bengaluru during March, April, and May are 33.4°C, 34.1°C, and 33.1°C, respectively. On March 29, the city recorded 36.4°C, the highest March temperature in five years. April 28 saw the year's peak temperature of 38.5°C, nearing the city's all-time April high of 39.2°C recorded in 2016.

The prolonged dry spell led to demands for rescheduling work hours by pourakarmika unions and allowances for street vendors struggling to cope with the extreme heat. Meteorologists attributed the soaring temperatures and lack of rain to El Niño conditions.

The rains finally arrived on May 2, ending a five-month drought. As per the Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) data in May, Bengaluru received 148.6 mm of rainfall in May, exceeding the normal 97.5 mm by 52%. Although the pre-monsoon rainfall from January to May was slightly below normal (-3%), the monsoon season compensated for the deficit.

During the south-west monsoon (June to September), Bengaluru Urban received 418 mm of rain, slightly below the normal 471 mm. The rainfall pattern varied, with excess rains in June and August, normal rainfall in July, and a significant deficit in September. The north-east monsoon brought a deluge, with Bengaluru Urban recording 363 mm of rainfall from October to mid-December, 68% above normal. Several parts of the city experienced heavy downpours during this period.

Despite the dry start, Bengaluru ended the year on a wetter note. From January 1 to December 18, it received 932 mm of rainfall, surpassing the annual average of 842 mm by 11%.

'Take up Mekedatu project on priority'

R. Krishna Kumar
MANDYA

Irrigation expert Capt. S. Raja Rao has said that the government should take up Mekedatu project on a priority basis – a major demand of farmers in the south Karnataka region.

Speaking at a panel discussion on water and land at the 87th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana here, he said all statutory clearances should be obtained from the Centre for its implementation.

What tribunal provides

Capt. Raja Rao said clause XIII of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal order provided for Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to build hydel projects in the common reach of the river subject to the release of water downstream, as stipulated by the tribunal. Besides, the CWDT has assessed the yield of Cauvery basin at 50% dependability as 740 thousand million cubic ft (tmcft) and has not assessed the surplus availability, he added.

Irrigation expert Capt. Raja Rao said by opposing Mekedatu, Tamil Nadu is trying to prevent Karnataka from using surplus flow in Cauvery. FILE PHOTO

He said the Supreme Court had allocated an additional 10 tmcft for irrigation and 4.75 tmcft for drinking purposes – in addition to 270 tmcft provided in the final order – for Bengaluru city for which storage was planned and proposed at Mekedatu. "By opposing Mekedatu, Tamil Nadu was trying to prevent Karnataka from using surplus flow in the Cauvery," he added. Delving on agriculture in the region, Capt. Raja Rao said the CWDT had restricted sugarcane cultivation in the Krishnaraja Sagar command area to only 40,000 acres and provided only 13.04 tmcft for it. But the area of sugarcane cultivated was more than the limit prescribed by the CWDT. To sustain the present extent of sugarcane cultivation an additional 40 to 50 tmcft of water was required and this reality had to be understood by political leaders and farmers, said Capt. Raja Rao.

In a paper on the subject, he called for diverting Kongana Hole and Kokkattu Hole to Lakshman Tirtha valley, harnessing replenishable groundwater from the water spread area of all reservoirs and from the command area of major irrigation projects in the basin.

PG medical 2nd round: 2,702 seats allotted

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) announced on Friday the final results of the second round of seat allotment for Postgraduate Medical Courses 2024. KEA allotted 2,702 seats.

According to KEA Executive Director H. Prasanna, candidates who have secured a seat must pay the fees by December 26 and report to their respective colleges by December 27. Candidates who have been allotted seats are required to take admission compulsorily. If they are not satisfied with their allotted seat, they can withdraw by paying a penalty of ₹1.5 lakh and collecting their original documents, he added.

Candidates who have been allotted seats are required to take admission compulsorily

As many as 4,651 candidates submitted their original documents, and all of them were considered for seat allotment. He clarified that those who did not submit their documents were not included in the allotment process.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mr. Divakar G S/o. Gopal Reddy,** residing at No.76/77, Nanjanagud Main Road, Mandakalli, Near Omakr Petrol Bunk, Mysore-571 311 is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. He has lost/misplaced the Original rectification Deed dated 17-12-2018, registered as document No.BSK-1-12314-2018-19, Stored in CD No.BSKD464, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Basavanagudi, (Banashankari), Bangalore, pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged on 13-12-2024 vide **Lost Report No. 1380835/2024.** I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/within **7 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Eastern Portion of **Site No.35,** Old Katha No.124, then Katha No.4, in Old Sy.No.71, New Sy.No.124, situated at **KATHRIGUPPE VILLAGE, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** now this property comes within the limits of BBMP, Corporation Old Ward No.55, New Ward No.182, **PID No.55-89-1, New E PID No.4451972056, New Corporation No.1,** Old 20th Main, New 21st Main, Revenue Layout (Padmanabhanagar North), Kathriguppe, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 20-0 feet, and North to South: (37+35)/2 feet, together with residnetial building constructed thereion and bounded on the;

East by : Property No.49; West by : Western Portion of same Property No.1/1; North by: Road, South by : Property N.36;

KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020.
Contact : 9740718436 / 9620461486

Government of Karnataka
O/O THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Panchayathraj Engineering Division, Ramanagara

Short Term TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. 26/EE/PRED/RMG/AE/2024-25/1223-1228
Date : 21-12-2024 (Only through E-PROCUREMENT system)

The Executive Engineer, Panchayathraj Engineering Division, Ramanagara, invites the Itemwise tender. Contractors registered in KPWD, enrolled in PRED/PWD Licence for the works under different Head of Account, Tender amount Rs. 150.00 lakh, Last Date for submission of Tender Dated : 30-12-2024 by 4.00 PM, Opening of the Tender Dated : 31-12-2024 at 4.30 PM, Opening of the Financial bid Dated : 02-01-2025 at 4.30 PM on wards For details & further information visit the website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Or contact this office in office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
P.R.E. Division, Ramanagara

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA FOREST DEPARTMENT
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force), Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan,
18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru – 560 003. 080-23346551

No. KFD/HOFF/B10(TND)/1/2024-ICT-KFD Dated: 21.12.2024

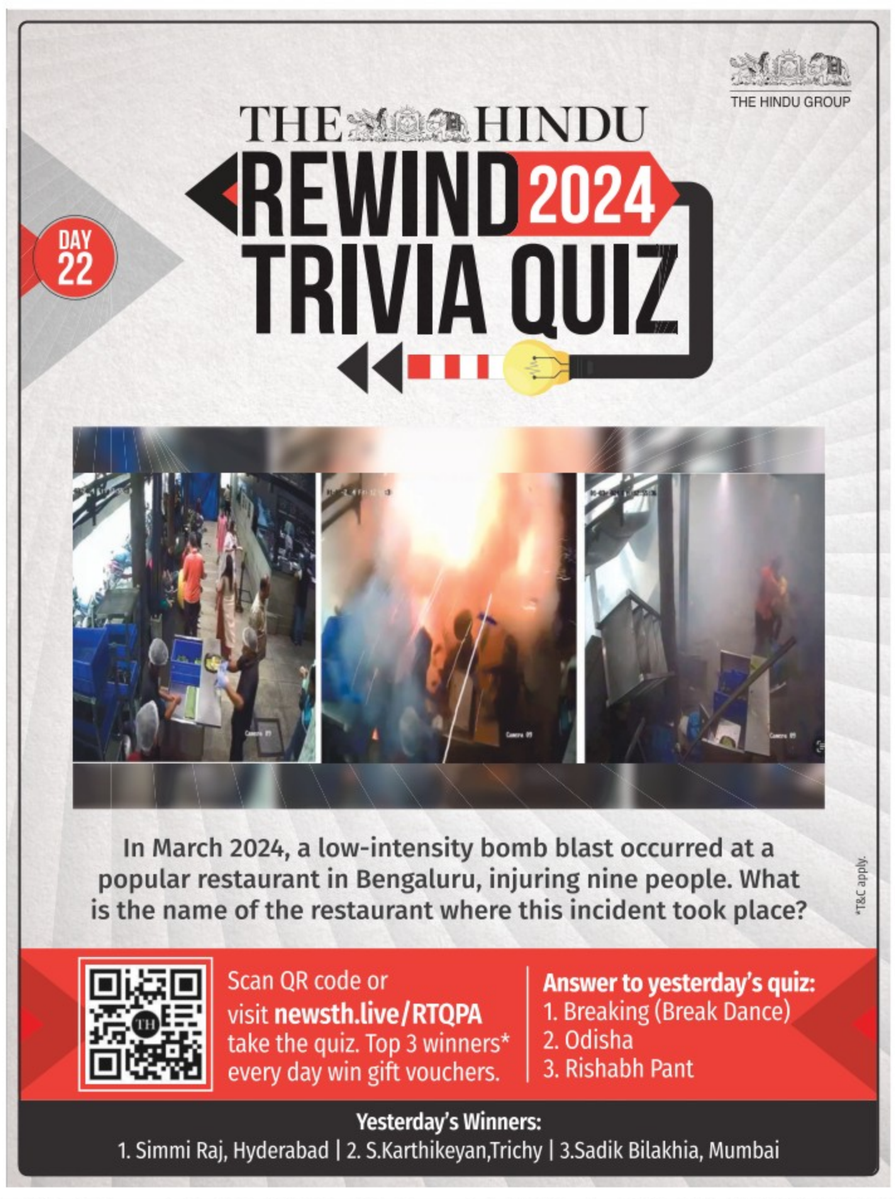
TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) has published e-tender No. KFD/2024-25/IND0188 dated: 21-12-2024 in the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka for **Supply & Installation of All-in-one-Desktop Computers & Laptops with five years Comprehensive Warranty and Multifunction Laser Jet A4 Monochrome Printer, Multifunction Laser Jet A3 Color Multi-function Machines, Tablet PCs with three years Comprehensive Warranty and Supply of Microsoft Office 2024 Standard perpetual licenses, across various offices of KFD.**

The e-tender No. KFD/2024-25/IND0188 dated: 21-12-2024 can be accessed through **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Interested bidders may download the detailed tender notification from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. The last date for submission of tender is **06-01-2025 at 5.30 PM.** The technical bid will be opened on **07-01-2025, 5.00 PM** and financial bid will be after completion of evaluation of technical bid.

Sd/-
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Information Communication Technology)

DIPR/CP/YC/3905/2024-25


THE HINDU GROUP
THE HINDU
REWIND 2024
TRIVIA QUIZ
DAY 22
In March 2024, a low-intensity bomb blast occurred at a popular restaurant in Bengaluru, injuring nine people. What is the name of the restaurant where this incident took place?
Scan QR code or visit newsth.live/RTQPA take the quiz. Top 3 winners* every day win gift vouchers.
Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Breaking (Break Dance)
2. Odisha
3. Rishabh Pant
Yesterday's Winners:
1. Simmi Raj, Hyderabad | 2. S.Karthikeyan,Trichy | 3.Sadik Bilakhia, Mumbai
*T&C apply.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bengaluru-560001
Ph: 080-2531006, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM -1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **10.01.2025 (10.30 AM TO 11.00 AM),** for recovery of **Rs.289573606.05/-** as on **19.12.2024** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from 1. M/s Sierra Constructions (P) Ltd Rep by its managing Director, 2. M/s Tecsol Sierra Engineering & Constructions, LLP Rep by its Managing Partner , 3. Smt K B Chikkathayamma** W/o Late B S Channappa, **4. Sri S C Dhanashankar** S/o Late B S Channappa, **5. Mrs Kumari Bharathi** W/o A C Dhanashankar **All are residing at:** No 187,1st Cross, 1st Main, Lower Palace Orchards Bengaluru – 560003 **6. Sri D Ranganna** S/o D Narayanamurthy No. 63, 2nd Cross Gavipuram Extension Bengaluru – 560019 **7.Sri Raheja P R** S/o Late J L Raheja No. 142, Embassy Heritage 8th Main Malleshwaram, Bengaluru – 560055 **8. Sri. Sheshachalam A** S/o Late A Venkata Rao No. 116,2nd Cross HAL III stage Bengaluru, **9. Smt N Shalini** W/o Late A C Sudhakar House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070, **10. Sri Raghupathi R** S/o Late G Ramakrishnan No. 106/21"Sai Anugraha" 11th 'B' Cross, 11th Main Road, Malleshwaram Bengaluru 560003, **11. Ms. A S Kanikka** D/o Late A C Sudhakar, **12. Sri A S Shreyas** S/o Late A C Sudhakar, **Both are residing at:** House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070 **13. Smt A C Geetha** D/o Late B S Channappa W/o M Nagaraju No 487, A & B Block peacock Street Mysuru – 570023 **14. Smt S C Sujatha** S/o Late B S Channappa W/o AS Nagesh No 74, Gurukrua 13th Main Hanumanthanagar Bengaluru – 560050. **15. Smt S C Suneetha** D/o Late B S Channappa W/o Dr. C Puttamadappa No.19-G1, Sieravillage Near B R Ambedkar Dental College Clive Road Cook Town Bengaluru – 560005. **16. Smt A C Lakshmi** D/o Late BS Channappa W/o Dr Jayaprakash No 1192,18th Main 5th Block, Rajajinagar Bengaluru - 560010.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited **(https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **09.01.2025 5.00 pm**

(₹.In Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incre -mental Value
1	All piece and parcel of the immovable residential flat bearing No G 106/B in B Block in the apartment named 'SIERRA SYLLABLE' situated at Sy No 213/2 CMC No. 149/A, 161, 162/A and 162/B Kodigehalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk in the name of Sierra Constructions having a super built up area of 1222 Sq ft and undivided share of 456 Sq ft with one car parking. **Owner of the property: M Anand** **Coordinates of the property: Latitude- 13.0644564N, Longitude- 77.5745634E**	₹.49.54	₹. 4.96	₹.1.00
	All piece and parcel of the immovable residential flat bearing No S 106/B in B Block in the apartment named 'SIERRA SYLLABLE' situated at Sy No 213/2 CMC No. 149/A, 161, 162/A and 162/B Kodigehalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk in the name of Sierra Constructions having a super built up area of 1222 Sq ft and undivided share of 456 Sq ft with one car parking. **Owner of the property: M Anand** **Coordinates of the property : Latitude- 13.0644564N, Longitude- 77.5745634E**			

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com)** or E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal and may contact **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066,9627872626,7483935007, 9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.**

Date : 21.12.2024
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

C.T. Ravi demands judicial probe, alleging 'plot to murder'

He was arrested for his 'derogatory' remarks on Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar and released following High Court order

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Alleging that there was a "plot to murder" him using the police, BJP MLC C.T. Ravi on Saturday demanded a judicial probe into the case filed against him and the way the police "misbehaved" with him taking him across several villages all through the night.

Mr. Ravi was arrested in Belagavi on Thursday for allegedly using a derogatory word against Minister for Women and Child Development Laxmi Hebbalkar inside the Legislative Council. However, the High Court of Karnataka, on Friday evening, directed the police to immediately release him from custody.

C.T. Ravi, BJP MLC, addressing a press conference in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Addressing presspersons at the BJP office a day after his release, Mr. Ravi alleged that the police's action was nothing but "mental and physical torture". "I have a strong suspicion that Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Women and Ms. Hebbalkar have planned something against me. My life is still under threat and I demand a judicial probe into this," he said.

'Phone tapped'
Alleging that his phone is being tapped, Mr. Ravi said, "I want the government to provide adequate security for me. If something happens to me, the government will have to take responsibility."

Narrating the alleged police action, the MLC claimed the police took him across several districts and in sugarcane fields during the night. "I suspect they had directions to finish me off or get me attacked. Thankfully the media and our party workers followed us and nothing happened. There was someone constantly calling the police and giving directions on the route. Someone was asking the police to snatch my phone. Police call records need to be investigated as this will give details about where all they took me. A judicial probe will reveal everything," he said.

'Banana republic?'
He further claimed his phone being tracked needs to be investigated. "The Deputy Chief Minister said that Belagavi is Ms. Hebbalkar's area and that I was fortunate to be just let go. What does he think? Is Belagavi a banana republic?" he asked.

BJP is blaming police to divert attention: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar alleged on Saturday that the Opposition BJP has been attempting to divert public attention from the original issue of MLC C.T. Ravi allegedly making derogatory remarks against Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar.

By claiming ill-treatment of Mr. Ravi by the police after his arrest in Belagavi, the State BJP leadership was supporting the MLC "to cover up his use of a derogatory word", the KPCC president said.

"The main issue is his use of language and his culture," Mr. Shivakumar told reporters here, in response to a question on the High Court ordering Mr. Ravi's release on Friday.

> If anyone in my party had used such words, I would have condemned it... R. Ashok is supporting him, he is party to the crime.
> **D.K. SHIVAKUMAR,** Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president

Mr. Ravi claimed he had not used derogatory remarks against Ms. Hebbalkar during the heated exchange in the Legislative Council after it was adjourned by Chairman Basavaraj Horatti. Mr. Hotatti too claimed there was no evidence to prove the matter in the official records of the House.

Noting that conscience is important, Mr. Shivakumar said, "If anyone in my party had used such words, I would have condemned it... R. Ashok (Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly) is supporting him, he is party to the crime," he told reporters here.

On police action
In reply to a question about police action against Mr. Ravi and allegations that he pressured the police, the Deputy Chief Minister said, "It is a police matter. I don't know... For everything that happens, they hold me responsible... They don't seem to get sleep without remembering me."

BJP has doubly insulted women, says Priyank Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Responding to BJP leaders who termed the High Court order to release legislator C.T. Ravi, who was arrested after he allegedly made derogatory remarks against Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar in the Legislative Council on December 19, as a loss of face to ruling Congress, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge said that Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) report would make the facts clear.

Speaking on the BJP leadership standing behind Mr. Ravi, Mr. Kharge said the saffron party had "insulted women" by supporting him with no questions asked.

"BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra did not even say that he would look into the issue and take appropriate action against Mr. Ravi if he had uttered such derogatory words. Instead, he said that the BJP men were 'not wearing bangles'. It means that he has insulted the women who wear bangles. What can one expect from Mr. Vijayendra when his father [former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa] himself is an accused in a POCSO case? The BJP did not issue a notice to its legislator Munirathna, an accused in rape and honey trapping cases," he said.

When asked about the allegations that Mr. Ravi was harassed by the police, the RDPR Minister said the police did their duty.

'It is like Shah is bitten by rabid dog'

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Minister Priyank Kharge, to a question on Union Home Minister Amit Shah's recent remarks on B.R. Ambedkar in Parliament, said it was as if the BJP leader was "bitten by a rabid dog".

Mr. Kharge said, "I don't know whether or not one can go to heaven after each of the seven lifetimes after chanting god's name. I can, however, firmly say that one can get a life of dignity and self-respect in this very lifetime if one embraces Ambedkar's principles."

Belagavi to Bengaluru – many places see protests

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI/BELAGAVI/MANDYA

Saturday witnessed protests in various parts of Karnataka against MLC and former Minister C.T. Ravi condemning his alleged obscene remarks against Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar.

Support in Belagavi
Belagavi, the home district of Ms. Hebbalkar, on Saturday, witnessed a huge protest, with hundreds of Congress members and followers of Ms. Hebbalkar marching from CPEd Ground to Chennamma Circle.

Raising slogans against him and the BJP which has stood in his support, they said the words used by the former Minister indicated the "true culture of BJP members". They burnt Mr. Ravi in effigy and played melancholic songs. BJP leaders who raise slogans of 'Bharat mata ki jai' should first learn to respect women, they said.

A protest being held against the remarks of Union Home Minister Amit Shah on B.R. Ambedkar in Parliament and BJP leader C.T. Ravi on Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar in the Legislative Council, at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Later, they submitted a memorandum to the Governor of Karnataka and the President through the district administration seeking Mr. Ravi's dismissal from the Karnataka Legislative Council.

In Bengaluru, several like-minded women's groups and progressive organisations came together at Freedom Park to protest against the remarks of both Union Home Minister Amit Shah about B.R. Ambedkar in Parliament and Mr. Ravi in the Legislative Council on Ms. Hebbalkar.

Mr. Ravi's alleged derogatory remarks were "unparliamentary", "anti-women" and "defied the decorum of the House", they said. It also amounted to sexual harassment of a woman at her workplace, the protesters said, in a joint statement.

The protesters expressed surprise at the Council Chairman's statement that there was no "official evidence" of the abusive words used when they were being played by private TV channels in the public domain; the same can be made available as evidence, they said.

At sammelana venue
There was a protest by progressive groups at the ongoing Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in Mandya, demanding that Mr. Ravi be banned from attending the event. Mr. Ravi was invited to speak on the topic 'Literature in politics: Politics in literature', chaired by Law Minister H.K. Patil. However, the MLC did not turn up. The protesters held placards saying 'Go back C.T. Ravi'. They raised slogans against Mr. Ravi calling him "anti-national" and "anti-women".

Did Horatti set a precedent by allowing arrest?

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

Karnataka Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti appears to have set a precedent by allowing the police to register a case and arrest BJP MLC C.T. Ravi for his alleged derogatory remark against Minister for Women and Child Development Laxmi Hebbalkar in the House, when it was adjourned after heated exchanges between ruling Congress and Opposition members.

Chairman of the Legislative Council Basavaraj Horatti.

Some sources in the Congress said Mr. Hotatti being the custodian of the House should have refrained the police from registering the case and arresting Mr. Ravi. The Chairman should have told the police officials that they have no jurisdiction to investigate the matter that occurred inside the House.

A senior Congress leader argued that Mr. Horatti should not have pronounced his verdict on the matter immediately in the House. He should have told members that he needed more time to go through the recordings and other documents to give his ruling.

Former Legislative Council Chairman B.L. Shankar said Mr. Horatti should have referred the matter to the Ethics Committee of the Legislature for a detailed study. Allowing the police to take over the matter would not augur well for the House that belongs to the elders. Such an incident had not occurred in the past, he said. Senior legislator T.B. Jayachandra said the Chairman should have discussed the matter in the business advisory committee.

Sources also said that the High Court of Karnataka's ruling on the arrest of the BJP MLC caused a lot of embarrassment to the government. The High Court observed that the police *prima facie* failed to follow the procedure in arresting Mr. Ravi. On Friday, the High Court directed the police to immediately release him from custody.

Another senior Congress leader said presiding officers of both Houses of the legislature "failed" to maintain the decorum of the respective Houses.

Chief Minister, DKS take stock of preparations for Belagavi event

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his Cabinet colleagues on Saturday held a preparatory meeting for the event being organised in Belagavi to mark the centenary of the Congress session presided over by Mahatma Gandhi back in 1924. The grand anniversary event in Belagavi is slated for December 26 and 27.

Speaking after the meeting, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said, "We will extend invitations cutting across party lines for the unveiling of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the Suvarna Soudha. Congress leaders M. Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi will unveil the statue. Public are not allowed for this event in view of security restrictions."

There will be a mega public rally on December 27 morning. Many national leaders will speak on the occasion. "Party workers from across the State will participate in the meeting," he said.

High Court suspends conviction of Satish Sail

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has suspended the conviction of MLA for Karwar Satish Krishna Sail in six cases of illegal export of seized iron ore, in which he was sentenced to seven years of imprisonment in each of the cases.

The court also directed that the Karwar Assembly constituency should not be notified for byelection as per Section 151 of the Representation of the People (RP) Act, 1951, till the outcome of his appeal against the trial court's verdict of conviction and sentence.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the interim order on December 19 as Mr. Sail stood disqualified as an MLA since October 24, the day on which he was convicted, as per Section 8 of the RP Act.

Satish Krishna Sail was convicted in six cases of illegal export of seized iron ore.

The court also said Mr. Sail should not be disqualified to contest future elections during the pendency of this appeal.

Restrictions
With this interim order, Mr. Sail would retain his position as the MLA for Karwar but with limited rights as the High Court has imposed several restrictions on him in terms of the apex court's order, passed in the case of Afsal Ansari vs. State of Uttar Pradesh in a similar situation in which Afsal Ansar faced disqualification as a Member of Parliament following his conviction and sentence beyond two years in terms of the RP Act.

The High Court said Mr. Sail would not be entitled to participate in the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and would have no right to cast his vote in the House or to draw any perks or monetary benefits.

In view of the suspension of conviction benefiting him to retain his position as an MLA, the High Court said his appeal would have to be heard expeditiously, as was directed by the apex court in the Afsal Ansari case, and decided to hear the appeal on February 10, 2025.

Fine to be paid
As per verdict of the trial court, apart from undergoing imprisonment, Mr. Sail has to personally pay around ₹9.26 crore as fine apart from paying another around ₹9.26 crore as fine on behalf of his company – Shri Mallikarjuna Shipping Pvt. Ltd., of which he is the managing director as he was found guilty of the offences of cheating and causing loss to the State exchequer by indulging in the illegal export of seized iron ore.

Though the High Court suspended his sentence on November 13, Mr. Sail filed an application for suspension of conviction to enable him to retain the position as MLA during the pendency of his appeal.

Mysore Medical College and Research Institute
(An Autonomous Institute of Government of Karnataka)
Irwin Road, Mysore-570001
Ph: +91-0821-2520512 (Off.), 2520803 (Fax)
Website : www.mmcri.karnataka.gov.in/
E-mail : mmcrimysore@yahoo.com
No. Equipment/14/2024-25 Date: 18.12.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act 1999 for the Supply of Furniture to the Examination Hall & Lecture Hall, New Academic Block, MMC & RI, Mysuru. The Tender documents may be downloaded from E-procurement website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 21.12.2024 and last date for submission of Tenders through E-procurement website is 20.01.2025 upto 5.00 PM. Those tenders which are not submitted with E.M.D. will be rejected. If, the last date for submission of Tender treated as holiday, the next working day will be considered as last date. No Notification in this regard will be announced.

Sd/- Director and Dean, Mysore Medical College and Research Institute, Mysuru.

DIPR/DDMYS/986/KSMCA/665/2024-25

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Smt. S. BHAGYALAKSHMY
w/o Late **V. Vinayakan**
passed away at her residence in **Chennai.**

Loving mother, grandmother, & great grandmother. She will be fondly remembered for the joy she brought to all.

Mini, Radhika, Srinivasan, Anand, Garima, Sanyukta, Srihari, Aura & Agam brothers Ramanan, Moorthy sister Shanti and their families.

REMEMBRANCE

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY
22.12.2024

Dr.Geetha Baskar
4 years passed
Memories Remain Eternal
Fondly remembered by Family and Friends

INBRIEF

TDB reduces virtual queue and spot booking entries

The Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) has reduced the daily cap on virtual queue and spot bookings. Under the latest arrangement, 50,000 pilgrims will be allowed entry via the virtual queue on December 25, coinciding with the Thanka Angi procession's arrival at the Sabarimala. An additional 10,000 slots will be opened the next day for the Mandala Puja, taking the total slots to 60,000. Spot booking entries will be capped at 5,000 on both days.

AP FiberNet serves notice on Ram Gopal Varma, 4 others

The A.P. State FiberNet Limited (APSFL) MD on Saturday served a legal notice on film director Ram Gopal Varma, four others, demanding a payment of ₹1.15 crore – which was earlier paid to them by APSFL for telecasting *Vyuham* movie on APSFL's First Show platform – with 12% interest from the date of payment made to RGV Aarvi Group till the date of realisation, and 18% on the said amount towards penalty, within 15 days of receiving the notice.

Body delivered in parcel: 'victim was murdered'

Forensic officials, who conducted the post-mortem analysis of the partially decomposed body of a man which was packed and sent to a woman in Andhra Pradesh's West Godavari district, have suggested that the man was murdered. The body was packed in a wooden box and sent to Sagi Tulasi, who resides at Yendagandi village, on Thursday. In a handwritten letter found in the parcel, the miscreants demanded ₹1.36 crore.

Six T.N. fishers attacked, robbed of gear mid-sea

The unidentified accused are suspected to be Sri Lankan nationals

The Hindu Bureau
NAGAPATTINAM

The Vedaranyam Marine police have launched an investigation into the incidents

In two separate incidents off the Kodiyakkarai coast, six fishermen from Tamil Nadu were attacked mid-sea and robbed of their belongings by unidentified persons, suspected to be Sri Lankan nationals.

In the first incident, early on Saturday, three fishermen from Akkaraipettai – K. Rajkumar, 25; K. Rajendran, 49; and M. Nagalingam, 45 – sustained injuries. They had put out to sea on Friday noon. Around midnight, six Tamil-speaking assailants on two boats assaulted them. They looted them of nets, a phone, and a GPS device, among others.

In the second incident, which happened at 11.25 p.m. on Friday, three fishermen from Perumalpet – C. Kumar, 48; K. Jagan, 30; and N. Lakshmanan, 40; were attacked by six persons. They, too, had put out to sea at 2 p.m. on Friday. The robbers, who were on two boats, attacked them approximately 22 nautical miles southeast of Kodiyakkarai. They robbed the fishermen of their nets, a mobile phone, GPS equipment, lights, and 100 kg of fish. The fishermen, who sustained internal injuries, returned to shore the next morning, but did not avail themselves of medical treatment.

The Akkaraipettai fishermen returned to Kodiyakkarai shore at 7 am.. on Saturday. They were initially admitted to a government hospital, and later shifted to the Nagapattinam GH in Orathur. Sources said Mr. Rajkumar had sustained cuts to his head and hand, and Mr. Rajendran, head injuries. Both the fishers are being treated in the intensive care unit. Mr. Nagalingam sustained internal injuries, they added.

The Vedaranyam Marine police have launched an investigation into the incidents.

Two arrested for violence during church procession

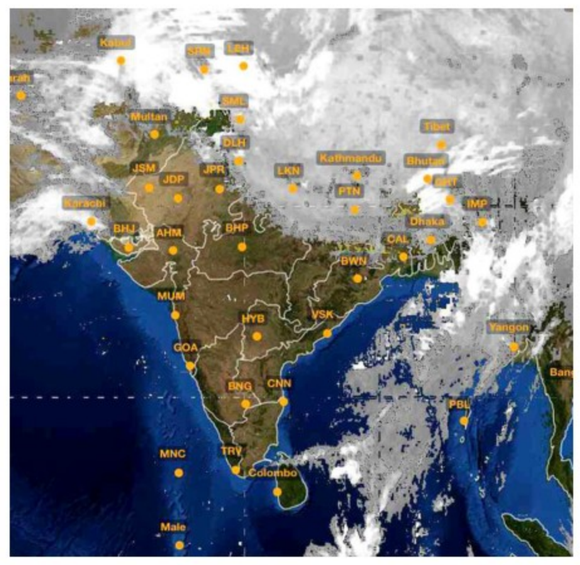
The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The stand-off between the Jacobite and Orthodox factions of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, Mulanthuruthy, spilled onto the streets on Friday night after a dispute over the festival procession sparked a clash between the Orthodox group and police.

The police were reportedly attempting to prevent possible violence at the church during the procession. The church has been a source of contention for years but was handed over to the Orthodox faction of the Malankara Syrian Church following a 2017 Supreme Court verdict. Two people were remanded and 32 charged in connection with the alleged attack on police personnel.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Dense fog likely in isolated pockets of Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha. Cold wave/severe cold wave conditions likely at a few places over Himachal Pradesh; in isolated pockets of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh and Muzaffarabad

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	22.0	15.8	Kozhikode	—	34.6	25.4
Ahmedabad	—	28.9	14.4	Kurnool	—	34.1	22.8
Aizawl	0.4	19.9	15.0	Lucknow	—	25.1	9.1
Allahabad	—	25.6	10.9	Madurai	—	34.6	24.2
Bengaluru	—	29.7	19.3	Mangaluru	—	30.9	24.0
Bhopal	—	25.2	10.4	Mumbai	—	29.8	19.1
Bhubaneswar	52	20.2	16.0	Mysuru	—	31.0	20.6
Chandigarh	—	23.2	5.6	New Delhi	—	23.4	7.6
Chennai	—	31.2	24.7	Patna	—	24.7	13.0
Coimbatore	—	32.8	23.0	Port Blair	—	30.2	26.2
Dehradun	—	24.1	5.6	Puducherry	—	31.7	24.0
Gangtok	—	14.2	6.8	Pune	—	31.4	16.4
Goa	—	32.0	24.0	Raipur	—	27.8	19.0
Guwahati	—	27.0	13.5	Ranchi	—	23.8	12.8
Hubballi	—	32.0	18.0	Shillong	—	16.2	6.5
Hyderabad	—	30.8	20.8	Shimla	—	18.4	5.1
Imphal	—	17.2	14.0	Srinagar	—	6.0	-8.5
Jaipur	—	23.9	9.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.0	25.0
Kochi	—	30.8	25.2	Tiruchi	—	32.9	24.6
Kohima	—	14.5	9.2	Vijayawada	0.1	31.1	22.6
Kolkata	1	21.6	19.0	Visakhapatnam	33	23.6	20.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.10	.43	.47	306	153	
Bengaluru	6	.15	.48	132	86	
Chennai	9	.39	.57	51	63	
Delhi	5	119	172	390	319	
Hyderabad	7	.96	.63	112	132	
Kolkata	.10	108	.33	131	128	
Lucknow	7	.36	.62	327	294	
Mumbai	—	107	.41	308	175	
Pune	—	108	116	157	153	
Visakhapatnam	—	—	.24	—	—	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Rohtak, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 427 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 27

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Telangana launches TB-free campaign

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Health Department, in collaboration with the Union Health Ministry, has launched the 'TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan' to eradicate tuberculosis in nine districts in Telangana.

The 100-day campaign aims to identify through comprehensive screening individuals at risk of contracting TB, said Minister for Health C. Damodar Rajanarasimha. Speaking during a videoconference on Saturday with Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda, the Minister highlighted the State's commitment towards the TB-Free India initiative.

The nine districts are Adilabad, Khammam, Karimnagar, Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nagarkurnool, Peddapalli, Suryapet and Wanaparthy. So far, 7,219 individuals have been screened in these districts.

Kerala begins probe into snakebite issue

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The General Education Department in Kerala has launched an inquiry into an incident in which a student was bitten by a snake at a school near Neyyattinkara on Friday.

Preliminary inspections have highlighted concerns regarding the poor maintenance of the school and its surrounding areas.

General Education Minister V. Sivankutty directed the Director of General Education (DGE) to submit a detailed report on the incident in which a Class 7 student suffered a snakebite during Christmas celebrations inside a classroom in Chenkal.

Neha, 12, was bitten on her leg by a snake. Officials suspect the snake to be a hump-nosed pit viper.

According to official sources, the girl is currently out of danger.

Flights diverted

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Dense fog and low visibility at Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) disrupted flight operations on Saturday morning, leading to the diversion of six incoming flights to other destinations. The affected flights included both domestic and international services. According to RGIA authorities, two international flights and four domestic flights were redirected. to airports in Chennai, Bengaluru, and Vijayawada.

Kerala government seeks ₹4,500 crore in Union Budget for climate resilience

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

In seeking ₹4,500 crore in the Union Budget 2025-26 for building climate resilience, Kerala has drawn attention to a "significant economic burden" on account of climate-related disasters and the need to build resilience through "anticipatory measures."

Initiatives planned by the Kerala State Climate Change Adaptation Mission (KSCCAM) for focused resilience-building will require an "initial finance requirement" of ₹22,500 crore between 2025 and 2030, Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal said.

He presented Kerala's wish list at a pre-Budget discussion chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Jaisalmer on Friday.

It is in this context that Kerala has sought the budgetary support of ₹4,500 crore. Moreover, an analysis of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) has revealed an additional spending of ₹4,273 crore between 2018 and 2024, according to the Minister.

In presenting its case for budgetary assistance, Kerala has drawn attention to the string of extreme weather events since 2017. These included drought in multiple districts and Cyclone Ockhi in 2017, the severe floods and landslides in 2018 and 2019, Pettimudi landslip in 2020, Kootickal landslip in 2021, the Kanichar landslip in 2022 and Attamala-Mundakkai-Chooralmala and Vilangad landslides in 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public that, our client intends to purchase the property morefully described in the Schedule hereunder from **Sri. SUBBARAYAN MOHAN KUMAR @ S.MOHAN KUMAR,** Son of Sri.Subbarayan, Aged about 62 years, Residing at: No.C-156, 2nd Main, 4th Cross, Ramachandra puram, Bangalore North, Bangalore 560 021 who acquired the same in terms of two deeds i.e., (i) Sale Deed dated 22/11/2001 executed by Sri.V.Dinamani registered as Document No. 3353/2001-02 in Book-I, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Srirampuram, Bangalore City and (ii) Partition Deed dated 12/04/2010 executed between Smt.M.Kuppamma @ M.Kuppammal and others registered as document No.194/2010-11 in Book-I and stored in C.D.No.SRID91, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Srirampuram, Bangalore City.

Any person/s who claims any manner of right, title or interest in the scheduled property or portion thereof in any manner whatsoever may lodge objections if any, supported by documentary proof/s ***within 15 days*** of publication of this Public notice before the undersigned. In the event no objections are submitted within the aforementioned time, our client shall deem that the Schedule Property is free from all encumbrances and shall proceed with completion of the sale transaction in respect of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Residential building bearing New PID No.2678973246, **Property No.56/56** measuring **East to West: 36 Feet and North to South: 65 Feet in all measuring 2340 Sq.Ft., or 217.39 Sq.Mtrs.,** of sital area situated at **1st Main Road, Ramachandrapura, Ward No.96 of Okalipuram, Bangalore** in the Records of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike earlier Amalgamated Municipal No.56, BBMP PID No.25-14-56 situated at 1st Main Road, Ramachandrapura, Ward No.25 of Ramachandrapura, Bangalore and previously forming part of (i) Municipal No.55 situated at 1st Cross, Robertson Block, Ward No.96, Bangalore and (ii) Municipal No.56, PID No.25-14-56 situated at 1st Cross, Ramachandrapura, Bangalore with building standing thereon and bounded by :-

East by : Property No.21,
West by : Road,
North by : Road,
South by : Conservancy Lane.

Sd/-

H'n'C Legal,
Advocates & Consultants
No.13/2, 1st Floor, 4th Cross,
Nagappa Street, Palace Guttahalli,
Bangalore 560 003.
Ph: 97315 54333/99456 30761.
Bangalore, Date: 22/12/2024

ನಗರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಸಿಂಧನೂರು

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ನಕಾಸಿಂ:ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ:ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್:07:2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19–12–2024

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಸಿಂಧನೂರು ನಗರಸಭೆಯ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ ವಿಷನ್ 2.0 ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ (MRF) ಶೆಡ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ (ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ನಂ: 25868 CALL-2) ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–3 ರ ಷರತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಐಟಂವಾರು ಬಿಡ್ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮತ್ತು ಸನ್ 2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನಲ್ಲಿ ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಗಾಗಿ ಆಟೋ ಟಿಪ್ಪರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸಲು (ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ನಂ: 4066) ಕೆ.ಜಿ–2ರ ಷರತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಬಿಡ್ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಅರ್ಹ ತಯಾರಕರು/ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ಮಾರಾಗಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿ ತಮ್ಮ ದರಗಳನ್ನು http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03–01–2025 @ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04–01–2025@ 4:45 ರ ನಂತರ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ನಗರಸಭೆಯ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.sindhanurcity.mrc.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆದು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ ಸಿಂಧನೂರು

DIP/RCR/613/KSMC&A/614/2024-25

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING, UTTAR PRADESH
6th FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW

No.: ME-3/2024/2907 Lucknow: Dated 21 December, 2024

Time Schedule for the Special Stray Vacancy Round-3 of Online Counseling for UP NEET UG-2024

In compliance of the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the writ petition C number-833/2024 dated 20-12-2024 the time schedule for the Special Stray Vacancy round-3 of online counselling for admission to undergraduate courses (MBBS) of Government / Private Medical Colleges / Institutions /Medical Universities of the state under UP NEET UG-2024 is as follows:-

S.No.	Description	Dates	Total Days
1	Date of deposition of Registration fee & Security Money	23rd December 2024 (From 11:00 AM) to 24th December 2024 (Till 11:00 AM)	01 days
2	Date of Merit List Declaration	23rd December 2024	01 day
3	Date of On-line Choice Filling	23rd December 2024 (From 2:00 PM) to 26th December 2024 (Till 10:00 AM)	03 days
4	Date of Allotment Result Declaration	26th December 2024	01 day
5	Date for Downloading the Allotment Letters & admission	26th December 2024 to 30th December 2024	05 days

- Only those candidates who are registered in the Special Stray Vacancy Round, but have not been allotted any seat, can participate in the Special Stray Vacancy Round-3. No fresh registration will allowed for Special Stage Vacancy Round-3.
- Such candidates who are registered in the Special Stray Vacancy Round, but due to some reasons could not deposit the registration fee and security amount, can participate in Special Stray Vacancy Round-3 by depositing the registration fee and security amount within the prescribed date/time.
- Candidates who have-been allotted any seat in the Any Round of Counseling of UP NEET UG 2024 are not eligible for Special Stray Vacancy Round-3.
- Candidates should assess their eligibility themselves as per the instructions contained in the government order / brochure of UP NEET UG 2024.
- The brochure and important instructions of UP NEET UG 2024 are available on the website www.upneet.in and www.up.nic.in. Keep visiting the departmental website regularly for updated information.

Help Line Numbers 8189011696, 8189011697,
8189011698, 8189011699

DIRECTOR GENERAL

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

E-Auction Sale of Properties on 10.01.2025

Last date of EMD : 09.01.2025

ARM-1 Branch, 2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. Ph: 080 25310066. E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 10.01.2025 (10.00 AM to 10.30 AM)** through E-Auction underthe Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance (https://baanknet.com/), e- mail: support.ebkray@psballiance.com, Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **09.01.2025 - 5.00 pm** **(₹. in lakhs)**

Lot No	Name & Address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets:	Total Dues	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection date & time
1.	**(1) Sri Sapthagiri Agro**, Plot No. 3D & 133B, I & II phase KIADB Industrial Area, Antharasanahalli Tumkur-572106. **(2) Mrs. Vanitha Rani (Partner)** W /o Sridhar Babu K S Sapthagiri Nilaya 4th cross, Near Water Tank Vidyanagar Tumkur-572101 **(3) Mr. Sridhar Babu K S (Partner)** S /o Srinivas Shetty Sapthagiri Nilaya 4th cross, Near Water Tank Vidyanagar Tumkur 572101.	(i) Land and Building situated at plot bearing No. 3-D, Sy. 21 & 23, measuring 50.80x136.40+132.7/2 meters totally measuring 6784 Sq.mtrs, situated at KIADB Industrial Area, 1st Phase, Antharasanahalli, Tumkur in the name of Sri Sapthagiri Agro Industry. (ii) Land and Building of 2 acres situated at the Industrial land bearing plot No. 133-B, KIADB Industrial Area, Antharasanahalli, Tumkur-572106. In the name of Sri Sapthagiri Agro Industry. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 13.383357N Longitude- 77.099993E**	**Rs. 1993428904.87/- with further interest and cost thereon. Physical Possession**	**a) ₹. 1210.00 b) ₹. 121.00 c) ₹.1.00**	**03.01.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer**
	Note: The person who wishes to bid for lot No. 1 has to invariably bid for lot 2 property also. Bid for lot No. 1 alone will not be accepted. However, bid for only lot No. 2 can be submitted.	Hypothecation of plant and machineries and Misc. Fixed Asset as such as Bunkers & Accessories, Electrical Equipment's. In the name of Sri Sapthagiri Agro Industry. **Coordinates of the property . Latitude- 13.383357N Longitude- 77.099993E**		**a) ₹. 1179.00 b) ₹. 118.00 c) ₹.1.00**	
2.	**1. M/s Padmavathi Agro Exports, Rep by its partners: Mr. K K Naveen. Mr. T P Vikram,** Unit: Opp State ware House, B H Road Tumkur -572 101 ,Also at: 5th Main, APMC Yard Batwadi, Tumkur- 572 106, **2. Mr K K Naveen** S/o Mr K S Krishna Murthy,448, Pete Beedi, Chikkanayakanahalli, Tumkur District - 572 214, **3. Mr. T P Vikram** S/o Mr Bhadrachala Setty, Venkateshapura, Sira Gate, Tumkur 572101, **4. Mr. Sridhar Babu K.S**. S/o Mr Srinivas Setty K S ,No. 101, 4th Cross, Sapthagiri Nilaya , Vidyanagara Tumkur -572101, **5. Mrs K S Vanitha Rani,** W/o of Mr Sridhar Babu K S, No. 101, 4th Cross, Sapthagiri Nilaya Vidyanagara, Tumkur-572101.	Residential House property bearing Khata No.8731/1538, 8731B/1538B, New Corporation Khatha No.1731*b/1538/2791 PID No.25144 at Vidyanagara, Near Water Tank, Tumkur in the name of Vanitha Rani K S W./o K S Sridhar Babu. Total Extent of the plot 1500 Sq.ft **Coordinates of the property** Latitude- 13.337000 Longitude- 77.124556	**Rs. 545879855.48/- with further interest and cost thereon. Physical Possession**	**a) ₹. 118.58 b) ₹. 11.86 c) ₹.1.00**	**03.01.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer**
		Site 1-B/22A & 1-A/22APID No.31/2170, 34/2072, at Unkal Village, Hubli Taluk, Dharwad District in the name of Mr K S Sridhar Babu S/o Srinivas Shetty K S. Total Extent of the plot 5317.52Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property** Latitude- 15.3668693N Longitude-75.1184537E		**a) ₹. 148.82 b) ₹. 14.89 c) ₹.1.00**	
		Industrial Land site No.113-A-P3 in Sy.No.63 at Antharasanahalli Industrial Area, 2nd phase Thimlapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Tumkur in the name of M/s Sapthagiri Agro Industry. In the name of M/sPadmavathi. Total Extentoftheplot32172Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property** Latitude- 13.383361 Longitude-77.100000		**a) ₹. 194.03 b) ₹. 19.40 c) ₹.1.00**	

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bengaluru Date : 21.12.2024 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Canara Bank**

From Page One

GST review on health, life insurance deferred

"On the request of State of Andhra Pradesh, the Council recommended that a GoM be constituted to examine the legal and structural issues, and recommend a uniform policy on imposition of levy in case of a natural disaster or calamity in the State," the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

The council clarified on how pepper and raisin supplies by farmers and popcorn should be taxed.

It has decided to levy a tax of 18% on sweetened or caramelised popcorn, and levy 5% on the salty and spicy varieties that are not pre-packaged and labelled, and 12% for labelled and pre-packaged savoury popcorn.

A proposal to levy GST on charges collected by municipalities for granting Floor Space Index (FSI) to builders, presented to the Council on Saturday, was put off for further examination at the Centre's behest on the ground that this amount relates to municipalities and local authorities. It was also agreed upon by Council members that gift vouchers are not liable to attract GST nor are penal charges imposed by banks and non-banking finance companies on borrowers failing to comply with loan conditions.

Ms. Sitharaman announced that the Council had agreed to reduce the GST on fortified rice kernels from 18% to 5% as these are supplied with an intent to pass them on the public distribution system (PDS) to benefit the poor.

Rule changed to restrict access to polling footage

According to a senior EC official, "The rule mentioned election papers. The election papers and documents do not specifically refer to electronic records. In order to remove this ambiguity and considering the serious issue of violation of secrecy of vote and potential misuse of CCTV footage of inside of the polling station using artificial intelligence by a single person, the rule has been amended."

He said, "Sharing of CCTV footage may have serious repercussions, especially in sensitive regions like Jammu and Kashmir, naxal-affected regions, etc., where secrecy is important. Lives of voters may also be at risk. All election papers and documents are otherwise available for public inspection."

"Candidates in any case have access to all documents, papers and records. Even Mr. Pracha was entitled for all the documents and records from his Constituency when he contested as a candidate in Lok Sabha Elections 2024," the official said, adding that nothing has been amended in the rules in this regard.

'Setback for transparency'

However, RTI activists have said it was a setback to transparency. "Huge setback for transparency! Modi government amends Rule 93(2) of Conduct of Elections Rules to restrict people's right to access election related records after High Court orders disclosure! Applications we filed in May 2024 under Rule 93(2) for copies of Form 17C are still pending," transparency activist Anjali Bharadwaj said.

Five killed in market attack in Germany

He said at least 40 of the injured were in a condition that people should be "worried" about them but gave no details. He pledged that Germany would respond "with the full force of the law".

Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said that while she would not speculate about the motive, "the one thing" she could confirm was that the suspect had expressed an "Islamophobic" stance.

Taleb Jawad Al Abdulmohsen, the suspect, had lived in Germany since 2006 and held a permanent residence permit, working in a clinic near Magdeburg. He had also worked as a rights activist who supported Saudi women and described himself as a "Saudi atheist".

(With inputs from PTI)

'25% of India's total area is under green cover'

India's Nationally Determined Contributions towards the Paris Agreement's targets require it to create an additional carbon sink of at least 2.5 billion tonnes by 2030. The FSI's inclusion of plantations in "forests" has been controversial, however, as they lack the deadwood and underground biomass development that also sequester carbon. The FSI has been assessing forest cover since 1987 and tree cover since 2001.

Since 2021, Madhya Pradesh has had the largest area under forest and tree cover (85,724 sq. km). The largest increase in forest and tree cover in this period was recorded in Chhattisgarh (684 sq. km).

Among other places, losses have been recorded in the Western Ghats and Eastern States Area (58.22 sq. km less forest cover) and the Northeast (327.30 sq. km less forest cover) – both highly biodiverse regions. Likewise, while "very dense" forests expanded by 3,465.12 sq. km, 'moderately dense' and 'open' forests have shrunk by 1,043.23 sq. km and 2,480.11 sq. km, respectively.

(With agency inputs)

Modi calls diaspora in Kuwait 'mini-Hindustan'

PM addresses Indian community in Kuwait, says India has potential to become skill capital of the world, discusses initiatives implemented by the Indian government, including e-Migrate portal

Press Trust of India
KUWAIT

Close interaction: Narendra Modi during a visit to a labour camp in Kuwait on Saturday. PTI

Praising the diaspora's contribution to global growth, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Saturday that India had the potential to become the "skill capital of the world".

Mr. Modi was addressing a large gathering of the Indian community at a special event, "Hala Modi", at the Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Indoor Sports Complex in the city.

"Every year, hundreds of Indians come to Kuwait. You have added an Indian touch to Kuwaiti society. You have filled the canvas of Kuwait with the colours of Indian skills. You have mixed the essence of India's talent, technology, and tradition in Kuwait," Mr. Modi said.

'Youngest country'

The Prime Minister, who is visiting Kuwait at the invitation of the Kuwaiti Emir, Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, expressed happiness about the presence of Indians from diverse corners of the country in the Gulf nation, and called it a "mini-Hindustan". India's start-ups, fintech firms, smart technology and green technology can develop cutting-edge solutions for every need of Kuwait, he said.

"India is well-equipped to meet the world's demand for skilled talent... India also has the potential to become the skill capital of the world," Mr. Modi said and underlined that for many decades to come, India will remain the youngest country in the world.

Highlighting India's strong commitment to supporting Indian workers in Kuwait and across the Gulf, Mr. Modi discussed technology-driven initiatives implemented by the government, including the e-Migrate portal.

Thanking the Emir for his invitation, Mr. Modi said that it was after 43 years that an Indian Prime Minister was visiting Kuwait to strengthen and solidify the age-old friendship.

"The relationship between India and Kuwait is one of civilisation, the sea, affection, trade, and commerce. India and Kuwait are located on two shores of the Arabian Sea. It's not just diplomacy that connects us, but also the bonds of the heart," the Prime Minister said to loud cheer from the gathering.

'Special moment'

"Today, personally, this moment is very special for me. For you all, coming to India takes four hours, but for the Prime Minister of India, it took four decades," he told the Indian gathering.

Mr. Modi further recalled the centuries-old strong trade ties between the two countries. "Our elders in Gujarat still recall how Kuwaiti traders learnt Gujarati, wrote books in it and traded their world-famous pearls in our markets. We took supplies of horses and many other items. There has been a long-lasting relationship between India and Kuwait," he said.

He also reminded the diaspora that till 60-65 years ago, Indian rupees were accepted in Kuwait.

The PM said that in the coming decades, India and Kuwait will become significant partners in prosperity.

The Prime Minister extended an invitation to diaspora members to participate in Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and Maha Kumbh to be held in India in January.

'Police in Northeast should reorient and focus on citizens too'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday the police in the northeastern States should change their orientation, and instead of their sole focus being on combating insurgency, they should ensure that every citizen is granted their constitutional right to property, honour and family protection.

"Now that violence has almost ceased in the Northeast, it is time to ensure that every citizen in the region was granted their constitutional right... it is time to change the culture and direction of the Northeast police. He said that with peace prevailing in the region, the focus should now be on ensuring citizens receive their rightful entitlements," Mr. Shah said.

He mentioned that the prerequisite for achieving this change is the complete implementation of the three new criminal laws across all States in the region. He was addressing the 72nd plenary of the North Eastern Council (NEC) at Agartala in Tripura.

The Minister urged all the Governors present at the meeting to personally monitor this process, as it is crucial to establish the belief in the Northeast that citizens can obtain justice through filing an FIR.

He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a campaign for a drug-free India, in which the Northeast has a special responsibility, as a major route for narcotics entering India passes through the Northeastern States. He mentioned that significant work has been done in the past six years in this direction, but the pace is still not sufficient.

He said connectivity is no longer a problem in the region, as the Centre has spent ₹81,000 crore for rail connectivity and ₹41,000 crore for road network in these region. He added that Northeast can be utilised better for palm oil cultivation.

Minister for Development of North Eastern Region Jyotiraditya Scindia, along with the Governors and Chief Ministers of all the eight Northeastern States, and senior officials were present at the event.

The council is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the region, consisting of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

Death toll in Rajasthan tanker collision fire reaches 14; HC asks govt. to fix responsibility

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Congress leader Sachin Pilot meet families of those injured in a highway accident in a hospital in Jaipur on Saturday. Fourteen persons have sustained over 50% burns. ANI

The death toll in the deadly tanker-truck collision that sparked a massive fire at Bhankrota on the Jaipur-Ajmer highway increased to 14 on Saturday, with three more persons dying from burns. Five of the deceased are yet to be identified as their bodies are charred beyond recognition.

The accident occurred early on Friday morning when a tanker carrying liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) was making a U-turn on the highway and hit a truck coming from the opposite direction. The fire caused by the collision spread rapidly across a 300-metre stretch of the road and engulfed three dozen vehicles in flames.

Twenty-six patients were undergoing treatment in the burns ward at the Sawai Man Singh Government Hospital here, and several of them were under critical care, the hospital's Medical Superintendent Sushil Bhati said. Among the patients, 14 have sustained over 50% burns, Dr. Bhati said.

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma has directed the officials to conduct a special drive for identifying "black spots" on the roads as well as accident-prone sites, and fix them to prevent accidents such as the one which took place on Friday. Senior Congress leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot, who met some of the injured persons at the hospital on Saturday, sought an investigation to find out the reasons for the accident.

The Rajasthan High Court took *suo motu* cognisance of the fire on Saturday and issued notice to the Chief Secretary and the Union government, asking about the steps being taken to fix the responsibility on the authorities, and probe negligence in the performance of statutory duty.

Justice Anoop Kumar Dhand said an adequate compensation should be awarded to the kin of the deceased, those injured and those who had lost their vehicles and properties in the accident.

Mumbai ferry accident: body of missing boy retrieved

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The body of the missing six-year-old boy in the Mumbai ferry accident was found within the Mumbai harbour on Saturday.

Navy personnel found the body of the child identified as Johan Mohammad Nisar Ahmed Pathan. The body was taken to J.J. Hospital, according to the Colaba police.

As per latest updates from the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, the death toll in one of the deadliest accidents in the Mumbai harbour rose to 15. Of the 113 passengers, 98 were rescued while two were injured.

The Navy craft, which collided with the ferry, had six people on board with two surviving the accident, the official said.

The Navy craft went out of control during engine trials and rammed the passenger ferry *Neel Kamal* as tourists were heading to the Elephanta caves from the Gateway of India.

Police officials said the Maharashtra Maritime Board (MMB) permitted just 84 passengers and six crew members on board *Neel Kamal*.

The Board cancelled the licence of the ferry on charges of overloading, which is a violation of the Inland Vessel Act.

A case had been registered against the Navy craft driver at the Colaba police station on Sections pertaining to causing death by negligence, actions that endanger the personal safety or life of others, rash or negligent navigation of a vessel and acts of mischief that cause wrongful loss or damage to individuals or the public under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

'Global terror group tried to target Siliguri corridor'

Moyurie Som
KOLKATA

West Bengal Police on Friday said suspected members of the "global terror group" Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT) who were arrested for allegedly running a sleeper cell in India had specifically targeted the Siliguri corridor that connects north Bengal to the seven Northeastern States.

"The objective of the sleeper cell was to recruit the local youth to engage in terrorist activities," Supratim Sarkar, Additional Director General of Police (ADG), South Bengal said.

U.P. to rope in 'digital warriors' to combat fake news, cybercrimes

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

The U.P. police launched 'Digital Warriors' in 2018.

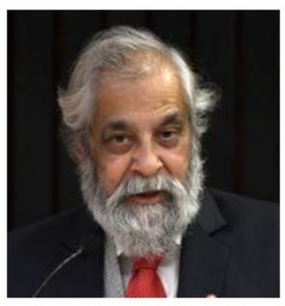
The Uttar Pradesh Police on Saturday announced its plans to enlist social media influencers and college students as "digital warriors" to combat circulation of fake news and strengthen the fight against cybercrimes.

Director-General of Police (DGP) Prashant Kumar, highlighting details about the initiative, said that the digital warriors will raise awareness of misleading news, train ordinary citizens against cybercrimes and publicise the campaigns of police. The DGP cited a successful pilot project run ahead of the Maha Kumbh Mela against fake news involving influencers and college students.

"U.P. police launched 'Digital Warriors' initiative in 2018, which became active on WhatsApp. People from different sections of society were added as digital volunteers. In 2023, WhatsApp groups were created enabling the State police to refute fake news and highlight the commendable work of the police. But there is a need to indulge young college students and social media influencers with the U.P. Police by making them digital warriors," the DGP added in a statement.

The initiative will focus on training college and university students through workshops on the need to verify information, analyse them and report misleading news to law enforcement agencies. "By training students, we can develop critical thinking skills, enabling them to analyse and verify information. They will help report cybercrime and fake news. They will raise awareness of fake news and cybercrime within their social circles," the DGP said.

The Uttar Pradesh Police said they plan to establish 'cyberclubs' in schools and universities, with a teacher from each institution serving as the nodal officer. "Workshops and creative sessions such as poster-making, slogan/short-story writing, and social media content creation will be conducted through the cyber clubs," Mr. Kumar added.


Madan B. Lokur

Madan Lokur is UN Internal Justice Council chief

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Supreme Court judge Justice Madan B. Lokur was appointed Chairperson of the United Nations Internal Justice Council for a term ending on November 12, 2028.

In a communication to Justice Lokur, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said the retired judge would head the council which also comprises other distinguished jurists.

Born in 1953, Justice Lokur was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court on June 4, 2012.

He demitted office on December 30, 2018, upon attaining the age of superannuation.

Change in election conduct rules erodes integrity, says Cong.

The Law Ministry had changed Rule 93(2)(a) of the 1961 Conduct of Election Rules; move of the EC will be challenged legally, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> The EC, instead of complying with the verdict, rushes to amend the law to curtail the list of what can be shared. Why is EC afraid of transparency?
>
> **JAIRAM RAMESH**
> Congress communication chief

The Congress on Saturday said that a change in rules regarding the conduct of elections is "a vindication of our assertions regarding the rapidly eroding integrity of the electoral process managed by the Election Commission of India (EC)".

Congress communication chief Jairam Ramesh, in a post on X, tagged a media report that claimed that the Union Law Ministry, in consultation with the EC, effected a change in the rules after the Punjab and Haryana High Court asked the EC to supply all information including video and CCTV footage pertaining to a particular booth in the recent Haryana Assembly polls to the petitioner.

On Friday, the Law Ministry, through a Gazette notification, had changed Rule 93(2)(a) of the 1961 Conduct of Election Rules under the Representation of the People Act, 1951. Earlier, the said rule stated that "all other papers relating to the election shall be open to public inspection". However, it has now been changed to read: "all other papers as specified in these rules relating to the election shall be open to public inspection".

"If there was ever a vindication of our assertions regarding the rapidly eroding integrity of the electoral process managed by the Election Commission of India in recent times, this is it. Sunlight is the best disinfectant, and information will restore faith in the process – a reasoning the Punjab and Haryana High Court agreed with when it directed the EC to share information that it is legally required to do so with the public," said Mr. Ramesh.

"Yet the EC, instead of complying with the judgment, rushes to amend the law to curtail the list of what can be shared. Why is the EC so afraid of transparency? This move of the EC will be challenged legally right away," he added.

Maharashtra CM allocates portfolios to Ministers, retains Home ministry

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

New roles: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde in Nagpur on Saturday. ANI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis retained the Home, and Law and Judiciary departments, while Deputy Chief Ministers Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar got Urban Development and Finance departments, respectively, in the portfolio allocation among the Cabinet Ministers in the State on Saturday.

Tiding over their internal differences, the Mahayuti partners finally announced the Cabinet portfolio allocation on the last day of the Winter Session of Maharashtra Assembly. Portfolios were announced for all the 33 Cabinet Ministers and six Ministers of State. The portfolio allocation has also changed the formula of the last government. Some portfolios have been reshuffled among the three parties, but the three top leaders will continue to handle their favourite departments.

The BJP has been successful in keeping the Revenue portfolio with itself, while Women and Child Development department will continue to be with the NCP's Aditi Tatkare though there was speculation on whether it will be handed over to a senior woman Minister from the BJP. Young faces have been given an opportunity in this Cabinet. The BJP's Nitesh Rane and Jaykumar Gore will handle Fisheries and Rural Development, respectively.

Chief Minister Fadnavis will handle five portfolios: Home, Law and Judiciary, General Administration, Information and Publicity, and departments not allotted to any other Ministers.

Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde will retain Urban Development department, along with two other portfolios – Housing and Public Works (public enterprises). Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar will continue to handle the Finance and Planning department, along with State Excise.

Some Ministers have had to take a step down from their previous portfolio. Senior BJP leader Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil will now be the Water Resources Minister.

NCP leader Dhananjay Mundhe has been named the Food and Civil Supplies Minister.

The berth allocation was announced a week after the Cabinet expansion, and almost a month after the Assembly election results in Maharashtra.

Congress steps up campaign over Amit Shah's remarks on Ambedkar

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and K.C. Venugopal.

Stepping up its campaign against Home Minister Amit Shah for his comment that it has become a "fashion" to take Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar's name, the Congress on Saturday announced a plan to hold countrywide press conferences and Ambedkar *samman* (respect) marches in the next few days.

"We will fight to protect Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's legacy against the *Manusmriti* worshippers! INC will mark the upcoming week as Dr. Ambedkar Samman Saptah," party general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said in a post on X.

Congress MPs, members of the party's working committee, and party leaders will hold 150 press conferences in their constituencies and home districts on Sunday and Monday.

"On 24 December, all across the country, we will hold Babasaheb Ambedkar Samman Marches and submit a memorandum to President of India through District Collectors demanding Amit Shah's resignation," Mr. Venugopal added.

The speed with which the party has reacted to Mr. Shah's remarks is unusual, but it is clearly aimed at reviving the political narrative that the BJP is out to end reservations in government jobs and educational institutions.

This narrative, combined with the BJP's call for "400 *paar* (beyond 400 seats)", proved to be a potent weapon during the 2024 Lok Sabha election. But it seemed to have run its course, as was evident during the recent Assembly elections, where the BJP scored impressive victories. So, Mr. Shah's comment was the opening the Congress was looking for in order to revive its "BJP-will-end reservations" narrative.

Speaking to pressperson in Parliament, Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, said Mr. Shah's comment reflected the "anti-reservation mindset".

"They [BJP] were always saying that they would change the Constitution. They are against the Constitution, against Ambedkar*ji*, his ideology. Their entire focus is to finish Ambedkar*ji*'s contribution," Mr. Gandhi had said on Wednesday.

The principal Opposition party surely knew that the second most powerful Minister in the Modi Cabinet will not resign over his off-the-cuff remark. But Mr. Venugopal sent out directives that on December 18 State units should gherao Raj Bhavans – a symbol of the Centre in a State – across the country over the alleged insult to the architect of the Constitution.

Parliamentary panel suggests giving subsidies to farmers to keep non-milching livestock

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Stray cattle graze at a potato farm in Uttar Pradesh.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee (PSC) on Agriculture, headed by former Punjab Chief Minister and Congress MP Charanjit Singh Channi, has recommended subsidies for farmers to keep non-milching animals to manage the problem of stray cattle. The panel asked the Centre to increase the allocation for insuring livestock.

Appreciating the efforts of the Union Animal Husbandry Department to control the birth of male bovine offspring using sex-sorted semen techniques – whereby only female calves are born with 90% accuracy rate – the panel said there is also need to prevent further growth of stray cattle from the already existing livestock population of 193.46 million cattle and 109.85 million buffaloes.

"Therefore, the Committee recommend that some incentive/subsidy may be provided to farmers and farm labourers for taking care of cattle and buffaloes which are past their economic utility in addition to increasing fund allocation for promotion of Gaushalas [cattle shelters] across country with farmers having a choice to either avail services of Gaushala or avail government incentive/subsidy for taking care of their non-productive bovine animals," the report said.

The panel also noted that the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is covering only 1% of the livestock population under the Centrally sponsored National Livestock Mission for livestock insurance due to insufficient budget provision.

"Looking towards the risk of more than 10 crore engaged in animal husbandry activities the committee recommends that Government should immediately initiate massive livestock insurance scheme to bring 53.5 crore livestock population under the ambit of this scheme. The committee recommends that higher allocation may be made available by the Government for implementation of livestock insurance scheme," the report said.

It also asked the Centre to work for self-sufficiency in cattle feed and fodder availability. "With increased availability of green fodder, cost incurred by farmers on milk production will be decreased and dependence of farmers on cattle feed will also be reduced. This will increase profit margins of dairy farmers," the panel said.

Kashmir in deep freeze after record temperatures

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Night temperature dipped to a record low of minus 8.5 C in Srinagar on Saturday and is the lowest since 1974. Sub-zero temperatures triggered a harsh cold spell across the Kashmir Valley and froze water bodies, just on the eve of 'Chilai Kalan', a 40-day harsh spell of winter starting from December 22.

Srinagar witnessed a minimum temperature of minus 8.5 C.

Rahul to meet Parbhani victim's family tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi is visiting Parbhani on Monday to meet the family members of Somnath Vyankat Suryawanshi, a law student who died in judicial custody after violence broke out in Parbhani.

Mr. Gandhi is expected to reach the victim's home by 2.45 p.m. He will be accompanied by Maharashtra State Congress president Nana Patole.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Maharashtra Pradesh Youth Congress chairman Akshay Jain said, "This is Mr. Gandhi's first official visit to Maharashtra after the Assembly election."

e-dit
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IMAGING TECHNOLOGY (C-DIT)
Thiruvananthapuram-27
Ph: 0471-2380910/912

E-TENDER NOTICE

e-Tender invited for the Supply & installation of following equipment
1) Laptops and printers
Tender id: 2024_CDIT_ 718756_1
2) Audio Video Equipment
Tender id: 2024_CDIT_ 718786_1
For details and online submission of bid please visit
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Last date of submission of bids:
31.12.2024, 03.00 PM.
21.12.2024 Registrar, C-DIT

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
O/o. The Superintending Engineer, (Projects-WZ),GHMC, Hyderabad
Tender Notice No.09/SE (P-WZ)/GHMC/2024-25/ Date: 21-12-2024
Name of Work: 1). Construction of Steel Flyover and Underpass at Jubilee Hills Check Post Jn., KBR Park Entrance Jn., and Mugdha Jn. near KBR Park, GHMC (Package-1) under Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC)/Turnkey - Basis, 2). Construction of Steel Flyover and Underpass at Road No. 45 Jn., Film Nagar Jn., Maharaja Agrasen Jn. and Cancer Hospital Jn. near KBR Park, GHMC (Package-2) under Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC)/ Turnkey - Basis, 3). Construction of four lane composite steel girder bridge on pipe line road across Fox Sagar Surplus Nala under Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC)/Turnkey - Basis. Est Cost: 1). Rs. 580 Crores, 2). Rs. 510 Crores, 3). Rs. 56 Crores.
Events, Date and Time: 1). Start Date: 23-12-2024 from 04.30 PM, 2). Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids: 07-01-2025 upto 04.00 PM, 3). Opening ofTechnical bid: 07-01-2025 after 04.30 PM, 4). Opening of Price bid: 10-01-2025 after 04.00 PM.
Note: The Bidders are advised to visit www.tender.eprocurement.gov.in to download Bid Document and EPC project Tender Drawings. Any Queries can be addressed to sesrd ppwz@gmail.com
Address of the officer concerned: Sri .G. Sree Lakshmi, SE(P-WZ), Superintending Engineer (Projects- WZ), Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad.
Further details can be seen at 'e' Procurement https://tender.telangana.gov.in
Sd/- Superintending Engineer, (Projects-WZ) GHMC
DIPR R.O.No.8229-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2023-24 Dt. 21.12.2024

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
Telangana Govt. Text Book Press, Mint Compound, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 500 063. Tel : 040 - 23234839
e-PROCUREMENT FOR SHORT TENDER NOTICE
Rc. No.2782 /P2/2024 Date :21-12-2024
Online tenders in two bid system are invited for supply of "60 GSM Writing and Printing Paper (Map-Litho) in reels 65 CM as per IS 1848:2018 from integrated pulp and paper mills/ Authorised Dealers "on All India Basis" for printing and supply of Single Answer Booklets of SSC Examination for the academic year 2024-25. The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from www.tender.telangana.gov.in from 23-12-2024 from 11.00 A.M onwards and last date & time for download is 28-12-2024 at 1.00 PM.
Sd/- Ch Ramana Kumar, Director, Telangana Govt. Text Book Press, Hyderabad
DIPR R.O.No.8228-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2024-25 Dt. 21.12.2024

THE TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.,
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
692, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035
E-mail: recruitment@tiic.org
NO.HRM/1/2024 Date: 22.12.2024
NOTIFICATION
Applications are invited through online mode only for appointment of 9 (Nine) Senior Officer (Finance) and 7 (Seven) Senior Officer (Technical) on **Contract basis for two years** in TIIC.
Eligible applicants are requested to refer to www.tiic.org for more details regarding instructions on how to apply, emoluments, qualifications, experience, etc.
The last date for submission of application is 05.01.2025. TIIC will not be responsible for any delay in submission of application due to technical error, network problem, etc. Candidates will be selected based on experience and performance in the Interview. **The appointment is purely temporary.**
DIPR/1251/Display/2024 CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

MP POORV KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.
Block No. 7, Shakti Bhawan, Rampur, Jabalpur (M.P.), Tel No: 0761-2702473, Fax No. 0761-2660048
CIN: U40109MP2002SGC015120, e-mail: cepurez@yahoo.in
No. CGM(S&P)/EZ/GM-II/III/2241 Jabalpur, dtd:- 18.12.2024
TENDER NOTICE
Online Tenders are invited for following items:-

Sr. No.	TS No. (For e-Tendering) Discom-EZ/Pur	NAME OF ITEMS	APPROX. VALUE (Rs. in Lakhs)	TENDER FEE (in Rs)	Due date & time of opening of tender online from 14.00 Hrs (*)
1	TS-1532 (e-Tender No. 2024_PKVVC_389197_1)	Lightning Arresters	141	5900	15.01.2025

* For updated/extended due dates for opening of tender (EMD in cover-1 & Techno-commercial bid in cover-2) please refer to the online key dates. For other details visit Company's website: www.mpez.co.in or https://mptenders.gov.in
// SAVE ENERGY FOR BETTER TOMORROW //
"बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के निराकरण के लिए 1912 डायल करें"
C.G.M. (S&P)

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure-Traffic Engineering Cell, N.R.Square, Bengaluru - 560 002.
No: EE/RI-TEC/TEND/10/2024-25 Dated: 21.12.2024
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT) (Call-2)
(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)
The Executive Engineer Road Infrastructure - TEC division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders for eligible Tenderers for the works detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the works
1.	Maintenance of BGS Flyover from Town hall to Sirsi Circle. **Approx. Amount Put to Tender: ₹.320.00 Lakhs (Exclusive of GST), EMD: 4,80,000.00 (₹.1.00 Lakh through e-payment & Remaining as specified in Bid document)**

Calendar of Events : (1) Availability of RFP Document from **27.12.2024** onwards. (2) Last date for submission of pre-bid queries is **31.12.2024** upto **3:00** pm. (3) Date of Pre bid meeting on **31.12.2024** at **4:30** pm. (4) Last Date for submission of tenders on **04.01.2025** upto **4:00** pm. (5) Date of Opening of Technical Bid is **06.01.2025** at **4:30** pm. (6) Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **Will be intimated to Tenderers.**
Sd/- Executive Engineer
RI-Traffic Engineering Cell

Technical Education Department
उत्तराखण्ड शासन
Govt. of Uttarakhand
Advt. No.: 1576/XLI-A/24-63/2021 Date: 20 December, 2024
RECRUITMENT FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR (EXTENSION OF LAST DATE
In continuation to advt, no. 1343/2024 dated 14/11/2024 the last date of receipt applications for the Post of Director in Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Engineering and Technology (GBPIET). Pauri-Garhwal (Autonomous Institute of Govt of Uttarakhand) in the pay Level-14, Entry pay Rs 144200/-plus allowances is extended to 31.12.2024. The appointment will be for a period of 3 years and can be extendable for 02 more years or till the age of superannuation as prescribed by State Govt, on contractual basis by the Board of Governor with the approval of Uttarakhand State Govemment. Essential qualifications and experience will be as prescribed by AICTE (Engineering/Technology program). The duly filled application on prescribed format along with relevant documents & application fee should be sent by Registered/Speed post to **"Secretary, Technical Education Department, Uttarakhand Secretariat, Subhash Road, Dehradun, 248001"** so as to reach latest by **31, December 2024, 5:00 PM.** Incomplete applications and applications received after the last date will be summarily rejected. For details visit website **gbpiet.ac.in.**
Secretary, Technical Education & Vice Chairman, Board of Governors, GBPIET Pauri

NAGPUR METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Station Road Kingsway, Sadar Nagpur-440001.
e-TENDER NOTICE No. 23/2024-25
www.mahatenders.gov.in
Sealed Item rate e-tenders are invited from non-registered /registered contractors with N.M.R.D.A./ N.I.T. / P.W.D. / N.M.C. or other Govt. Dept. as per eligibility criteria for **One** development work. The details of work will be uploaded on tender website i.e. www.mahatenders.gov.in

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Amount of work / E.M.D. in Rs.	Eligibility/Tender Cost in Rs.	Time Limit in Months	Division
1	**Construction of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Super Speciality Hospital & Post Graduate Institute for Medical Sciences at Kh. No. 101, 102 & 103, Mz. - Indora, Nagpur.**	402.08 Cr. 2.01 Cr.	As per Tender Document 50,000/-	36	North

Money :- E.M.D. is to be paid by online only. **Plans & Estimates :-** Available in the Technical Section, Head Office, Sadar, Nagpur. **Tender Forms :-** From 02.00 P.M. on Date **26.12.2024** up to 2.00 P.M. on Date **27.01.2025** on www.mahatenders.gov.in **Receipt / Submission :-** From 02.00 P.M. on **26.12.2024** up to 2.00 P.M. on Date **27.01.2025** on www.mahatenders.gov.in. **Pre-bid Meeting :- On 4.00 P.M.** on Date **07.01.2025** in the Office of S. E. (Project), Station Road, NMRDA, Head Office, Sadar, Nagpur. **Opening :-** At N.M.R.D.A. office on Date **28.01.2025** at 2.00 P.M. or as decided by N.M.R.D.A.
-sd- Superintending Engineer,
Advt.No. S.E.(NMRDA)/31/2024-25 Dated : 21.12.2024 Nagpur Metropolitan Region Development Authority

INBRIEF

Rain dashes farmers' hopes for a windfall in Odisha

Incessant rain, driven by a low-pressure area, has left agricultural lands in Odisha waterlogged, submerging ready-to-harvest paddy crop and dashing farmers' hopes of earning ₹3,100 a quintal of paddy for the first time in the kharif season. The State has received widespread rain across most districts after a low-pressure area over west-central and adjoining southwest Bay of Bengal turned into depression. The rain has proven to be a curse for farmers in both coastal and interior districts, striking at the peak of the harvest season. With their fields partially submerged, farmers are struggling to salvage their ready-to-harvest paddy.

Railway stations in Bengal promote GI-tagged products

The Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway is promoting West Bengal's unique local products with the Geographical Identification (GI) tag through its "one station, one product" (OSOP) stalls. One OSOP store in Sealdah station is selling Joynagar Moa, a traditional sweet made from palm jaggery and puffed rice. The unique product, which is prepared at Joynagar in South 24 Parganas district was granted the GI tag in 2015. At the Phulia station in Nadia district, an OSOP stall is selling traditional Santipuri saris. At the Krishnanagar station, another railway station in Nadia district, an OSOP stall is promoting traditional clay idols.

Row over whitewashing of century-old murals in Kolkata

The 170-year-old Government College of Art & Craft, Kolkata (GCAC), has found itself at the centre of a controversy over the whitewashing of the century-old Rajasthani murals on the college building. The Rajasthani motifs – painted in a repetitive, matrix formation on the arches of three floors – are believed to have been commissioned in the late 19th and early 20th centuries when Ernest Binfield Havell and Abanindranath Tagore were heading the institution. However, the whitewashing of the murals has led to widespread protests in West Bengal's artist fraternity, including among renowned names of the GCAC alumni.

Will ensure Pashmina shawls don't attract high GST: Omar

Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday said his government will ensure that the famed Pashmina shawls are not considered in the higher slabs of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), and warned that such a move would be life-threatening to the Pashmina shawl industry. Mr. Abdullah, who attended the 55th meeting of the GST Council in Rajasthan, said there were some things that were agreed on, and some things were deferred during the meeting. "There had been a lot of speculation that GST on shawls, particularly Pashmina shawls, will be hiked, so we had come prepared to ensure that wouldn't happen," Mr. Abdullah said.

SUDOKU

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	5	9	7	6	1	4	2	8
7	6	8	4	5	2	3	9	1
1	2	4	9	3	8	7	6	5
5	1	6	2	9	4	8	3	7
8	3	2	6	1	7	9	5	4
4	9	7	3	8	5	6	1	2
6	4	5	8	2	3	1	7	9
2	8	3	1	7	9	5	4	6
9	7	1	5	4	6	2	8	3

Railways laying a heritage track that links old and new

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Polished patina: The Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus in Mumbai lit up in Tricolour lights on the eve of Independence Day in 2024 in Mumbai. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus adorned by its imposing dome, the Jaipur railway station with its palace-like arched facade, Chennai's Egmore station rooted in distinctive Indo-Saracenic style, and smaller picturesque stations at Ballari and Coonoor are among 30 heritage structures in the larger pool of 1,337 railway stations that have been shortlisted for a makeover under the ambitious Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.

In all, the Indian Railways has categorised 79 railway stations as "heritage structures".

While stations are given "heritage" status by the Heritage Directorate of Indian Railways, the ₹60,000-crore Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is being helmed by the Gati Shakti Directorate and the station development section of the transporter. According to official data, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus is set to be renovated at a cost of ₹1,813 crore, Egmore at ₹842 crore, Kanpur at ₹767 crore, Jaipur at ₹717 crore, Nagpur at ₹589 crore, and Lucknow at ₹494 crore.

"We are working closely with the heritage wing to ensure that upgrade of stations to introduce passenger-friendly facilities does not interfere in any way with their heritage value," a senior rail official said.

The Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, for instance, is a UNESCO heritage site, and has seen incremental infrastructure additions since the 1870s.

"Its facade is a melange of traditional Indian palace architecture and Victorian Gothic design. However, additional floors for the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) office were built at the back of the building in the 1930s, which we are removing. The DRM office is being shifted to another complex," a senior railway official closely working on the project said.

"We want to open up this space for building a public park. We are adding more viewing galleries near the platform area, so that passengers can see the heritage structure which is replete with historic domes, turrets and pointed arches, from multiple points."

There is a plan to install 100 to 200 automated fare collection (AFC) gates, which require scanning of a QR code. "In future, tickets will bear QR codes, much like Metro tickets in many cities. This will help with regulating entry to the station," the official said.

Stone marvel

Built in stone and featuring two towers with huge curved windows and medieval entrances, Karnataka's Ballari is one of the oldest railway stations in India dating back to 1869. The building is currently painted in white and rust orange colours. "Its heritage look is being aesthetically preserved in the development work. We are restoring the stone facade by sand blasting, filling the cracks by pressure grouting and using water-proofing technique to bring out the natural look of the building," the official added.

"Similar work is being carried out in Coonoor station, which is another UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is part of the picturesque Nilgiri Mountain Railways," another official said.

After the Heritage Committee suggested that officials revisit their plans to restore Udhagamandalam and Coonoor stations, officials said they were working in close consultation with the committee to ensure the heritage buildings do not lose their original glory. Revamp of the stations will likely cost around ₹7 crore each.

"The committee has suggested that plans for a new cafeteria at Udhagamandalam be shelved, and that an old stone structure used by the Railway Protection Force can house the cafeteria to maintain continuity of look. In Coonoor, the structure being constructed in the front to be used as a circulating area for passengers will emulate the heritage building," the official said.

A Grade II heritage structure, the Nagpur Railway Station built in 1925 is facing challenges due to increasing footfall and chocka-bloc vehicle parking, which obscure its facade. "We are constructing underground parking facilities at Nagpur. Also, improved facade lighting is being introduced to highlight the elegant architectural details of the structure," officials explained.

Phase I of Maritime Museum in Gujarat to open next year

Sarbananda Sonowal says the project is anticipated to have a daily footfall of up to 25,000 and will create a total of 22,000 jobs; Phase 1A of the project has achieved 65% progress currently

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

Engineering marvel: A Sea Harrier 609 fighter jet, which will be on display at the maritime museum in Lothal. PTI

The first phase of the National Maritime Heritage Complex in Lothal, Gujarat, will be completed and opened for the public from September 2025, Union Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has said.

"While the entire project, which would be the largest maritime museum in the world, is expected to be completed by 2029, the Phase I would be open to people from September 2025," Mr. Sonowal said in an interview to *The Hindu*.

He said that international collaborations with more than 20 countries has been proposed for development of the complex. These collaborations will bring in Joint Maritime Research Activities, Preservation of Maritime Heritage, Exchange of Information, Artefacts, Technical know-how among other things.

"This (NMHC) would be centre for learning and study and research globally on maritime issues," he said. The Minster said that the project is anticipated to have a daily footfall of up to 25,000 and would create 22,000 jobs. "At present, 65% physical progress for the Phase 1A of the project has been achieved."

Excavations have revealed the world's oldest known artificial dock, which was connected to an old course of the Sabarmati river in Lothal, located 80 km from Ahmedabad. The site has been nominated to be enlisted as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Archaeologists believe that the city was a part of a major river system on the ancient trade route from Sindh to Saurashtra in Gujarat, according to the Gujarat Tourism website.

The Union Minister said that the discovery of the dry dock has proved that India used to be one of the largest shipbuilders and also had world-class ship repair facilities. "The high-quality ships were being built in India and as a result Indian ships were able to complete successful voyages across the world. And this has not only integrated the world community through trade and commerce but also through cultural exchanges and pilgrimages."

The Union Cabinet in October gave its nod to the project. It also accorded in-principle approval for Phases 1B and 2 of the project, as per the master plan, by raising funds through voluntary resources or contributions. It mandated that a separate society will be set up for development of future phases, to be administered by a Governing Council headed by the Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

Delhi's proposal for Republic Day tableau not approved by expert panel

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The Gujarat tableau is among those selected for the Republic Day parade in consecutive years. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The Delhi government's proposal for a tableau for Republic Day was not approved by the expert committee, while Mizoram and Sikkim expressed their inability to participate in the parade this time.

Officials of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep did not turn up for the expert committee meeting. They were among the 15 States and Union Territories originally selected from the roster for the January 26 event, defence sources said. In place of them, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have been given a chance, sources said.

Against the backdrop of repeated controversies over selection of tableaux for the Republic Day parade and complaints from States year after year, the Defence Ministry, ahead of the parade this year, proposed a roll-over plan for the States and Union Territories to showcase their tableaux, and a roster was prepared for 2024, 2025 and 2026 under which each of them would get a chance to participate at least once during the three years.

"The expert committee looks into various aspects of theme, concept, designs and visual elements. Out of the 15 States and Union Territories on the roster, the expert committee did not approve the proposal of Delhi," a source said.

While details of the Delhi government's proposal and the specific reasons it was not approved were not immediately known, sources observed that in the two decades past, Delhi has presented its tableau seven times. On why Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh were selected again consecutively, a source said several States had participated more often than the two of them. They include Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Assam.

Following the agreement on the three-year rollover plan in January, several States that were selected to present tableaux at the Republic Day parade on Kartavya Path presented them at the Bharat Parv at the Red Fort, which included Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Jammu and Kashmir, Goa, Assam and Uttarakhand.

The Defence Ministry has an elaborate screening mechanism that selects participants for the parade.

Temple managements not implementing reservation rosters, says NCST member

Nayak says there is partiality against SC and ST employees in service matters and promotions

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

Across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Odisha, temple management executive officers are working carelessly, many do not even implement the reservation rosters, and there is partiality against Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees in service matters, including promotions, says National Commission for Scheduled Tribes member Jatothu Hussain Nayak, who took charge in March and began working extensively in the States south of the Vindhyas just after the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

In an exclusive interaction over the phone with *The Hindu* this week, Mr. Nayak, a BJP politician from Telangana, spoke of the significance of having a member of the commission from a southern State, his experience of reviewing temple management Boards during official visits, and a focus on raising awareness of the commission's work, which he said had led to increased complaints now being filed with the NCST.

Common complaint

Mr. Nayak said he had conducted reviews of two States, 26 public sector undertakings, and 48 districts across the country in his time with the commission so far.

"In States I have visited such as Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Kerala, the most common complaint poor people from ST communities have had is with regard to forest *pattas* and land issues, followed by service matters," Mr. Nayak said. But in his visits, Mr. Nayak has given special attention to checking whether temple managements across these States are following mandated rules on reservation and addressing complaints of ST employees working at various posts within the management structure.

He has already led reviews of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), Sree Seetha Ramachandra Swamy Devasthanam in Bhadrachalam, Srisaila Devasthanam, and the Puri Jagannath Temple.

"In so many temples, they are not using rosters at all. Bhadrachalam predominantly has an ST population and it is located in the jungles. They have no regard for reservation. In Srisailam too, this is the case. This is also in the jungle area. There should be more right for STs of the area for their development. In Tirupati, the situation is very bad," Mr. Nayak said.

Referring to the situation at the TTD, Mr. Nayak said the NCST was informed about a host of issues relating to the welfare of SCs and STs there during a review in August. Among the list of complaints were demands to allow SCs and STs to be considered for religious posts in the temples, adequately inform SCs and STs about stipend scheme of the TTD for those studying the Vedas, lack of reservation in shop and hawker licence allotments, and a near absence of a grievance redress mechanism for SC/ST staffers.

"When we took stock of the issues and called the EO to explain what is happening, they kept evading and then went to the High Court to get a stay order. We will fight it tooth and nail in the court. How can the court stay proceedings of a commission, which is itself exercising its Constitutional powers as a civil court?" Mr. Nayak said, adding, all temples he has reviewed have similar issues.

Mr. Nayak told *The Hindu* that he has been able to use his position at the NCST to take the commission's services to more and more people in the southern States."There have been many more commission members appointed from the North, so some work has been done there. But in the south, awareness about the NCST and what it can do for the people is relatively low," he said.

INBRIEF

VW moving closer to a deal with employee unions

Volkswagen is getting closer to a deal with labour leaders in the company's longest negotiations over pay and jobs, sources told *Reuters*, as Europe's largest carmaker tries to push through cost cuts and avert mass strikes. Volkswagen has been in talks with labour representatives since September over steps it says are necessary for it to compete with cheaper Chinese competitors, slower-than-expected adoption of electric vehicles and lacklustre European demand. REUTERS

RRP S4E Innovations secures ₹102 cr. Defence Ministry order

RRP S4E Innovations Ltd., which is into electro-optics, said it has won orders from the Ministry of Defence, Department of Military Affairs for procurement of long range thermal imaging (TI) camera and smart thermal imaging sight for small arms (Smart TI Sight for SA) worth ₹102 crore. The company would supply long range TI cameras worth ₹68 crore and smart TI sights worth ₹34 crore for small arms as part of these orders.

Popees Baby Care to ramp up its South India presence

Popees Baby Care Products Pvt. Ltd. plans to add 42 stores during FY26 as a part its expansion strategy in South India. The expansion would cover Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The firm would also open one store in each metro and other large cities in the country, the company added. It is also gearing up to enter Abu Dhabi and Sharjah by opening two showrooms at Sahara Centre in Sharjah and Dalma Mall in Abu Dhabi, the company said.

November Gain: U.S. inflation down, consumer spends rise

Autos, recreation, financial services lifted spending 0.4% last month; Core Personal Consumption Expenditure (PCE) inflation rises 0.1%, marking the smallest uptick in six months

Reuters
WASHINGTON

U.S. consumer spending rose in November amid strong demand for goods and services, underscoring the economy's resilience, which saw the Federal Reserve this week projecting fewer interest rate cuts in 2025 than in September.

There was also good news on inflation. The report from the Commerce Department on Friday showed moderate monthly rises in prices, with a measure of underlying inflation posting its smallest gain in six months. Still, some areas of stickiness remain.

Cautious Optimism: Though the pace of price rise has been moderate, some areas of stickiness remain. AFP

The personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index rose 0.1% last month after an unrevised 0.2% gain in October. In the 12 months through November, the PCE price index advanced 2.4% after rising 2.3% in October.

Personal income rose 0.3%, with wages shooting up 0.6%. The savings rate dipped to 4.4% from 4.5% in October.

Monthly inflation subsided after showing little improvement in recent months. The increase in the annual inflation rate was partly due to last year's low readings dropping out of the calculation.

"The economy continues to grow from strong consumer demand," said Jeffrey Roach, chief economist, LPL Financial.

"Inflation was more benign than expected but the stickiness of some categories supports the Fed's hesitancy to materially lower rates next year," he added.

'Realty, Metro Rail to drive Otis India's double-digit growth goal'

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

With the luxury and commercial real estate sector in India doing well and the Metro Rail segment growing rapidly, Otis India, one of the biggest elevator firms in India, is eyeing to sustain double-digit growth, its president told *The Hindu*.

"We are very pleased to retain, sustain the leadership position in new equipment and service. We introduced about 25-plus products over the years,

Sebi Joseph

from Bengaluru, focused high on indigenisation, localisation, which helped in growing our market share, gaining leadership, growing top line, bottom line, and catering to the aspirations of the Indian consumers," Sebi Joseph, president, Otis India, said.

"Today, about 95% of the India's requirement is met by our Bengaluru factory," he said, adding all segments the firm operates in, are growing steadily.

He said the company will increase the capacity of its factory in Bengaluru by about 20% to cater to the growing demand.

"As the market grows and India goes high rise, so we are in tune with India's growth, and at times, ahead of it," he said.

'NPS AUM to touch ₹15 lakh crore by fiscal end'

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

The assets under management (AUM) of the National Pension System are expected to touch ₹15 lakh crore by the end of current fiscal year, Pension Fund Regulatory Development Authority Chairman Deepak Mohanty said on Saturday.

Mr. Mohanty said the take-up rate by employees in corporates remains a challenge, despite 18,000 companies signing up.

SRMPR Auto eyes leadership in '₹100-cr.' India caravan market

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Ravi Pachamuthu

Chennai-based SRMPR Auto Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd., a part of SRM group, is aiming at becoming a market leader in the ₹100-crore caravan and camper space in the next few years, a top company official said.

"We forayed into caravan manufacturing business in 2013. But, the business venture started to take off only post COVID. Since then, there has been no turning back," Group chairman Ravi Pachamuthu told *The Hindu*.

'Nascent stage'

"Caravan business in India is still in nascent stage. India market is valued at ₹100 crore, of this we hold 40% market share nationwide and 80% in Tamil Nadu. It is growing by 20% year-on-year," he added.

According to him, there are only four major players in the organised sector. The market between organised and unorganised sector is in the ratio of 80:20. Tamil Nadu has more than 1,000 caravans.

SRMPR started this venture to make long distance travel a smooth affair keeping utmost safety aspect in mind. Initially, the firm imported caravans. But it did not suit Indian conditions.

Mr. Ravi said that they initially started manufacturing limited numbers of caravans for personal use. Later, they started making it for third parties at affordable prices by using chassis procured from Ashok Leyland, Tata Motors, Force and Bharat Benz among others.

Caravans/campers were customised based on customers need and feedback. Interested customers were given a demo and it resulted in improved sales. Till date, the company has sold about 50 caravans.

Besides, caravans, the company also manufactures different types of school and luxury buses, vanity vans, mobile medical unit, election campaign vans, Tempo Traveller conversion and motor-homes among others for corporate houses, educational institutions and political leaders. It also undertakes repair and restoration services. Till date, the firm had sold over 1,200 units.

"Our products adhere to international standards of quality and performance. We ensure that high grade steel is used in the manufacturing process such that the caravans and campers are resistant to damage by corrosion," he said.

Mr. Pachamuthu revealed that they will close 2024 with 48 caravans and plan to make about 100 caravans through 2025.

THE HINDU GROUP

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Moon was formed around 4.51 billion years ago, says study

The Hindu Bureau

Evidence to support an older age for the formation of the Moon, around 4.51 billion years ago, as per a paper published in the journal *Nature*.

This new analysis suggests that a 'remelting' of the Moon's surface around 4.35 billion years ago may have masked a far older history.

The Moon is thought to have been formed through a collision between the early Earth and a Mars-sized protoplanet, the last giant impact in our planet's history.

The timing of this event has been estimated by dating lunar rock samples presumed to have crystallised from the lunar magma ocean that existed post-impact, placing the Moon's age at approximately 4.35 billion years old, as per a *Nature* release.

However, this age fails to account for several discrepancies with thermal models and other pieces of evidence, such as the number of craters on the Moon and the age of some zircon minerals on the Moon's surface, which suggest that the Moon could be up to 4.51 billion years old.

Resetting formation

The researchers argue that the frequent occurrence of approximately 4.35-billion-year-old rocks may be indicative of a remelting event, driven by the Moon's orbital evolution, rather than the first solidification of the lunar magma ocean. The authors use modelling to show that the Moon may have experienced sufficient tidal heating to cause this remelting approximately 4.35 billion years ago, which could 'reset' the apparent formation age of these lunar samples.

In addition, the remelting of the Moon would explain why there are fewer lunar impact basins from early bombardment than might be expected, as they would have been erased during a heating event.

The authors posit that this explanation would suggest the formation of the Moon occurred between 4.43 and 4.53 billion years ago, at the upper limit of previous age estimates.

Does 2022 H5N1 bind, replicate better in the respiratory tract?

Based on lab studies, researchers found the currently circulating H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4.b virus attaching better in the human respiratory tract than a well-characterised 2005 H5N1 clade 2.1.3.2 virus

R. Prasad

Since the first case of H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b in a farm worker in Texas was reported in April this year, the number of confirmed H5N1 cases in humans as of December 20 has shot up to 64 in the U.S., with 34 cases in California alone. Yet, despite H5N1's high fatality of 52% since 2003, there have been no deaths so far. While 63 cases in the U.S. have been mild, on December 18, the CDC reported that a patient in Louisiana had been hospitalised with a severe case of H5N1 infection. While the B3.13 genotype of H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b, which is spreading in dairy cows, has caused infection in 63 people, the Louisiana patient has been infected by the D1.1 genotype of H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b, which has been detected in wild birds and poultry.

The Louisiana case is similar to Canada's British Columbia teenager whose condition rapidly progressed to acute respiratory distress syndrome, requiring intensive care. The British Columbia teenager too was infected by the D1.1 genotype found in wild birds and poultry.

The H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b has retained the specificity for avian receptors, thus explaining why most human cases have been mild. The specificity for avian receptors also explains why human-to-human transmission has so far not been reported. For the H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b to cross the species barrier and infect humans and spread from one person to another, the virus requires to efficiently infect the cells in the respiratory epithelium of the upper respiratory tract. In a study posted in a preprint server, which is yet to be peer-reviewed, researchers have found that H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b attached to and replicated more efficiently in the respiratory epithelium than the 2005 H5N1 clade 2.1.3.2.

"As per the study, the increased replication efficiency was noted in nasal epithelial cells. Independent evaluation of the polymerase activity in cells suggested there was no significant virus polymerase activity This would mean that the replication efficiency in the cells could be contributed by cellular factors, which remains unknown," Dr. Vinod Scaria, senior consultant at Karkinos Healthcare, Bengaluru told *The Hindu*. "The wild bird to human spillover was estimated with 50% fatality, but we don't really know the denominator, since screening especially in asymptomatic is not typically done."

"The data suggest that there might be an increased risk of human infections with the currently circulating 2.3.4.4b H5N1 viruses, which might facilitate opportunities for human adaptation," the authors caution. As per a paper published in the journal *Science*, studies carried out in a lab showed that a single mutation at one hemagglutinin site – 226L – was sufficient to change the specificity of receptors from avian to human. "In nature, the occurrence of this single mutation could be an indicator of human pandemic risk," the Editor's summary notes.

The researchers of the preprint study found that the H5N1 virus that has been spreading since 2022 "attached more abundantly to and replicated more efficiently in cells of the human respiratory tract compared to the 2005 H5N1 and seasonal H3N2 viruses". Influenza A virus is endowed with the ability to attach to and replicate in the upper respiratory tract can lead to infection and transmission of the virus, while the ability to attach to cells in the lower respiratory tract is associated with its ability to cause severe respiratory disease. The study found that the currently circulating H5N1 virus attached to a moderate number of epithelial cells in the upper respiratory tract, while the 2005 virus showed no capability.

While avian influenza A viruses prefer to bind to sialic acids present in the avian digestive tract as well as in the human lower respiratory tract, human influenza viruses preferentially bind to sialic acids that are abundantly present in the human upper respiratory tract. "So for efficient infection of and transmission among humans, influenza A viruses need to overcome the differences between avian and human receptor repertoires in order to attach to and replicate in cells in the human upper respiratory tract," they write.

Based on lab studies, the researchers found that the currently circulating clade 2.3.4.4.b H5N1 virus attached better in the human respiratory tract than a well-characterised 2.1.3.2 clade H5N1 virus. "Our data show abundant attachment of 2022 H5N1 virus to upper and lower respiratory tract tissues, which contrasts with 2005 H5N1 virus. This suggests that the receptor binding repertoire of the 2022 H5N1 virus has expanded to attach to receptors in the human upper and lower respiratory tracts." The efficient attachment of H5N1 virus clade 2.3.4.4.b in the human respiratory tract was also associated with more efficient replication.

Increased potential risk of human infections

To infect humans and spread among humans, the virus has to efficiently infect the epithelial cells in the upper respiratory tract

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

There have been 64 confirmed human cases of H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b in the U.S. as of December 20

- Despite H5N1's high fatality of 52%, there have been no deaths in the U.S. so far, and the infection has been mild. One patient in Louisiana, U.S. is hospitalised due to severe infection
- The condition of Canada's British Columbia teenager rapidly progressed from conjunctivitis to severe disease requiring intensive care
- The British Columbia teenager and the Louisiana patient were infected by the D1.1 genotype of H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b, which is currently circulating in wild birds and poultry. This is different from the B3.13 genotype that is spreading in cattle herds in the U.S.
- The study found H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b attached to and replicated more efficiently in the respiratory epithelium than the 2005 H5N1 clad 2.1.3.2.
- The receptor binding repertoire of 2022 H5N1 virus has expanded to attach to receptors in the human upper and lower respiratory tracts
- Better attachment to and replication contributed to more robust innate immune response in human respiratory epithelial cells
- There is increased risk of human infections with the currently circulating 2.3.4.4b H5N1 virus

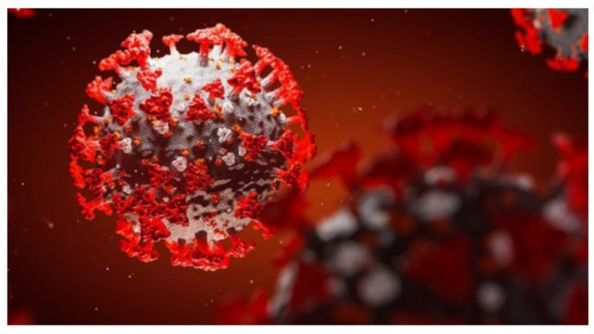
Journal retracts the discredited hydroxychloroquine paper

The Hindu Bureau

More than four-and-a-half years after the highly questionable "study" by a French researcher Didier Raoult and others claiming that hydroxychloroquine monotherapy and hydroxychloroquine in combination with azithromycin was "significantly associated with viral load reduction/disappearance in COVID-19 patients" was published on March 20, 2020, the paper was finally retracted on December 17 this year. The paper published in the *International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents* was withdrawn because of concerns about the ethical approval for the research. The paper that was submitted to the journal on March 16, 2020 was accepted for publication the very next day.

Three days after the paper was published, ICMR approved the use of hydroxychloroquine as a prophylaxis by healthcare workers and those caring for COVID-19 patients. The drug was also granted an emergency use authorisation by the U.S. FDA on March 28, 2020, which was revoked about once-a-half months later. The publication of the paper and the FDA approval raised a lot of attention globally and contributed to a demand for the drug despite appropriate evidence of its benefit. The drug was also strongly backed by the then U.S. President Donald Trump.

On April 3, a fortnight after the paper was published, the journal publisher – the International Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (ISAC) – which co-owns the journal with Elsevier, expressed concerns saying that the "article does not meet the Society's expected standard". An independent review commissioned by the journal also concluded that the trial had "several major methodological issues, including the design, outcome measure and the statistical analyses". Yet, the journal did not retract the paper until a few days ago.



Tall claim: The authors claimed that hydroxychloroquine significantly reduced the SARS-CoV-2 viral load. GETTY IMAGES

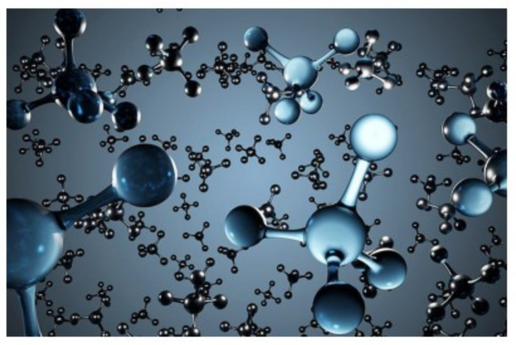
Addressing the concerns about the peer-reviewing process, the ISAC statement said that despite being the Editor-in-Chief of the journal and an author of the paper, "Jean-Marc Rolain had no involvement in the peer review of the manuscript and has no access to information regarding its peer review".

The paper came under investigation again a few months ago when three authors of the paper contacted the journal saying that they had "concerns regarding the presentation and interpretation of results" and no longer wanted to be associated with the article, as per documents seen by *Retraction Watch*. Responding to *Retraction Watch*, a spokesperson for the journal said that the "journal was reopening the previously closed investigation after receiving the authors' requests".

Ethical approval for the study was granted on March 6 and as per the paper, the follow-up of the participants was supposed to last for 14 days. But with a "submission date of March 16, the timeline becomes seemingly impossible", Elisabeth M Bik, an independent research integrity researcher wrote on PubPeer in March 2020. In the retracted notice, the journal addresses this concern saying: "The journal has not been able to establish whether all patients could have entered into the study in time for the data to have been analysed and included in the manuscript prior to its submission on the 20th March 2020, nor whether all patients were enrolled in the study upon admission as opposed to having been hospitalised for some time before starting the treatment described in the article."

As per the details available in the EU clinical trials register, the secondary objective of the trial was to evaluate the "clinical effectiveness of treatment on time to apyrexia, normalisation of respiratory rate, and average length of hospital stay and mortality". The results of the secondary objective are not available in the paper. While the primary objective of the study was to shorten the period of virus carrying and thus contagion, the secondary endpoint is "very important for determining whether patients may have clinical benefit and not only a reduced risk of infecting others", a researcher wrote on PubPeer.

SNAPSHOTS



Eco-friendly reactor converts air and water into ammonia

Taking inspiration from how nature produces ammonia, researchers have developed a reactor that produces the chemical commodity from nitrogen in the air and water, without any carbon footprint. The plasma-electrochemical reactor can sustain a high ammonia production rate of approximately 1 gram per day for over 1,000 hours at room temperature, and does so directly from air, which is a significant advance toward green ammonia synthesis at an industrially competitive production rate.

Denali Fault tore apart ancient joining of landmasses

A study shows that three sites spread along the Denali Fault located in the southern half of Alaska were once a smaller united geologic feature indicative of the final joining of two land masses. That feature was then torn apart by millions of years of tectonic activity. Historical reconstruction of 483 km of horizontal movement on the Denali Fault found that the three locations at one time formed a terminal suture zone, which represents the final integration of tectonic plates into a larger mass.

Early warning tool can help control huge locust swarms

Using weather forecast data from the U.K. Met Office, and state-of-the-art computational models of the insects' movements in the air, researchers can now predict where swarms will go as they search for new feeding and breeding grounds. This is the first that can rapidly and reliably predict swarm behaviour. It takes into account the insects' life cycle and their selection of breeding sites, and can forecast locust swarm movements both short and long-term.

Question Corner

Squirrels and voles

Are ground squirrels strictly granivorous?

A new study provides the first evidence that California ground squirrels also hunt, kill and eat voles. Researchers have for the first time chronicled widespread carnivorous behaviour among squirrels. The study changes our understanding of ground squirrels. It suggests that what was considered a granivorous species is an opportunistic omnivore and more flexible in its diet. Through videos, photos and direct observations at the regional park, the researchers documented California ground squirrels of all ages and genders hunting, eating and competing over vole prey between June 10 and July 30 this year. The squirrels' carnivorous summer behaviour peaked during the first two weeks of July, coinciding with an explosion of vole numbers at the park reported by citizen scientists on iNaturalist. This suggests the squirrels' hunting behaviour emerged alongside a temporary increase in the availability of prey, the study said. The scientists did not observe the squirrels hunting other mammals.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

Why are some packaged foods under a cloud?

What did the nutritional profiling of some convenience foods reveal? Are labelling regulations being flouted?

Zubeda Hamid

The story so far:

A study of 432 convenience food products, in five categories – idli mixes, breakfast cereals, porridge mixes, beverage mixes, soup mixes – and extruded ('puffed' or 'expanded') snacks, has found that a majority of these ready-to-eat/packaged food products are high in carbohydrates.

Who conducted the study?

The study, 'Assessment of front and back of pack nutrition labels of selected convenience food products and snacks available in the Indian market' by Shobana Shanmugam *et al*, was published in *Plos One*. Researchers with Chennai-based Madras Diabetes Research Foundation, the Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Nutrition and the University of Reading, the U.K. were involved. It aimed to evaluate the nutritional profiles and claims of selected convenience food products and snacks in the Indian market and also measured their healthiness.

The nutritional profiling of the foods was conducted based on the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) claims regulations, after evaluating the nutritional information on the front and back of pack labels of the selected food items. Only the nutritional content claims related to protein, dietary fibre, fat, sugar and cholesterol were evaluated in this study. The healthiness was assessed using a nutritional traffic light system.

What did the study find?

In essence, the study found that while most of the products could fall under the 'healthy' or 'moderately healthy' categories, except extruded snacks, most of the products provided over 70% of the energy from carbohydrates, while extruded snacks provided over 47% of the energy from fat. The energy distribution from protein was found to be less than 15%.

Experts say warning labels must be specific. For instance, those with hypertension can avoid food labelled as 'high sodium,' while those with diabetes can avoid high sugar foods

All convenience food products that the study tested were rich in carbohydrate content. While beverage mixes had the highest carbohydrate content (35.5g to 95g/100g), extruded snacks had the highest total fat content (mean 28.3±7.5 g/100g), and the highest saturated fatty acid (SFA) content (mean 11.0±4.5 g/100g). The beverage mixes were found to be high in sugar content. The soup mixes had high sodium levels with poor protein and dietary fibre content. The idli mixes had high protein content and were largely sugar free. The study also found that despite FSSAI's packaging and labelling regulations requiring products to display the minimum nutritional information for energy, protein, carbohydrate, sugar, and total fat as "per 100 g" or "100 ml" or "per serving" of the product on the label, only certain breakfast cereals and some beverages widely disclosed the concept of per-serving information. Further, some products that claimed to contain whole grains did not display them in the ingredient list and these claims may be misleading to the consumer, it noted.

What are the issues around food labelling?

For years, activists have been advocating for front-of-pack labelling that has warning labels indicating high fat, sugar and sodium. "We want the warning labels to be specific, so, for instance, a customer with hypertension can avoid food labelled as 'high sodium' or a customer with diabetes can avoid high sugar foods," said Vandana Prasad, a public health professional.

Lead author of the paper and senior scientist at Madras Diabetes Research Foundation Dr. Shanmugam said the present labelling system was not uniform, and customers could find it hard to understand.

How are changing diet patterns affecting health?

As per the household consumption expenditure survey 2022-23, Indians are now spending more on processed food, beverages, and refreshments.

Experts have highlighted this changing diet is a huge contributing factor to the staggering burden of non-communicable diseases in the country. The Economic Survey of India this year, citing the Indian Council of Medical Research's dietary guidelines, noted that 56.4% of the total disease burden in India is due to unhealthy diets.

Not only do excessive carbohydrates in the diet place a strain on the pancreas, therefore increasing one's risk for type 2 diabetes, but other chemicals in processed food can increase the risk of ailments such as fatty liver as well, said Nihal Thomas, senior professor, Department of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, Christian Medical College, Vellore. R.M. Anjana, managing director of Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre, Chennai, who was part of the study, reiterated the importance of reading food labels and avoiding processed food as much as possible.

What are India's plans for a quantum satellite?

What is its function? When is it expected to be launched? Which are the fields in which this communication device will help? What about security issues? What is quantum cryptography? What are the pros and cons of quantum key distribution?

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

On December 13, Ajai Chowdhry, chairman of the Mission Governing Board of the National Quantum Mission, said India plans to launch a quantum satellite in "2-3 years for quantum communications".

What is the National Quantum Mission?

The National Quantum Mission (NQM) is a Department of Science & Technology programme to accelerate the use of quantum physics to develop advanced communications and sensing systems.

The development of computers changed the course of human history from the mid-20th century onwards. Advances in this sector gave humankind satellites, telecommunications, weather forecasts, drug-discovery programmes, etc.

But these advances are reaching a saturation point because the physics phenomena on which they are based, called classical physics, are hitting a performance upper-limit. So scientists around the world are developing new technologies to solve the same problems but using phenomena of quantum physics. Because the rules of quantum physics allow for the outcomes of classical physics as well as new 'bonus' ones, the new devices are expected to be more versatile problem-solvers.

The Union Cabinet approved the NQM in April 2023 at ₹6,000 crore, to be implemented from 2023 to 2031. The planned quantum satellite is part of this package.

What is a quantum satellite?

A quantum satellite is a term for a communications satellite that uses quantum physics to secure its signals.

Quantum physics has paved the way for new forms of data protection, and quantum satellites are expected to facilitate them

Communications is a broad term that refers to technologies that send and receive signals. An important part of these technologies is security: preventing bad actors from intercepting a message being transmitted across large distances, through multiple networks.

The advent of quantum computers threatens the technologies currently being used to secure messages. Fortunately, quantum physics has also paved the way for new forms of protection, and quantum satellites are expected to facilitate them.

GETTY IMAGES

How are messages secured?

Say two people, Anil and Selvi, are standing at two ends of a playground and wish to speak to each other. They could shout or wave their hands. However, Anil composes his message, encrypts it, and writes the encrypted text on a piece of paper. He ties it to the foot of a messenger pigeon and sends it to Selvi. If Selvi knows how Anil encrypted the message, she can decrypt it to access the original text.

Encryption is the task of concealing information. The manner is called the cipher. A simple example is the Caesar cipher, where the letters of the alphabet are offset by a fixed number. If the number is 5, the words BIRDS FLY AWAY become GNWIX KQD FBFD.

Say there is a third person, Kaushik, standing in the middle of the ground and trying to eavesdrop on the conversation. If he intercepts the pigeon, he can't crack the text unless he knows the manner of encryption.

This security paradigm is called cryptographic security. It works by hiding the secret code, or key, behind an extremely difficult mathematical problem. A bad actor like Kaushik can solve the problem with a powerful computer to reveal the code – but the harder the problem, the more time (and/or more computing resources) he will need.

Even the most powerful supercomputers have difficulty cracking the best Advanced Encryption Standard ciphers in use today – but quantum computers may be able to do better.

How can quantum physics protect messages?

Quantum cryptography uses the tenets of quantum physics to secure messages. Its most famous type is quantum key distribution (QKD).

In the example before, Anil used a key to encrypt his message and Selvi, who knew the key, used it to decrypt the message. QKD is concerned with sharing this key with both Anil and Selvi such that if Kaushik is eavesdropping on the transmission, everyone will find out and the sharing will be aborted.

Quantum physics can protect against eavesdropping in different ways. One is quantum measurement – the act of measuring the properties of a quantum system, like a photon (the particle of light). According to the rules of quantum physics, a quantum measurement changes the state of the system. If information about the key is encoded in a stream of photons and Kaushik traps and measures them to look for it, the state of the photons will change and Anil and Selvi will know the key has been compromised.

Another way is to use quantum entanglement: when two photons are entangled, any change to one particle will instantaneously change the other. (This is a simplistic description.)

Has QKD been implemented?

Ravindra Pratap Singh of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, wrote in 2023 that standards for different QKD implementations are still a decade away. This said, China currently operates the world's largest QKD network with three quantum satellites and four ground stations.

Experts are also trying to implement QKD across longer distances. Since the early 1990s, the distance of reliable transmissions has increased to several hundred kilometres, either through fibre-optic cables or free space.

In an October 2024 study, researchers at the Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru, reported the Indian Astronomical Observatory in Hanle, Ladakh, offers the best atmospheric conditions through which to transmit data for a satellite-based QKD system. The paper's lead author Satya Ranjan Behera said the beam distance would be 500 km.

Does QKD have drawbacks?

QKD on paper can be different from that in the real-world. This is why the U.S. National Security Agency has recommended the use of post-quantum cryptography rather than quantum cryptography. Its criticism is focused on five technical limitations: "QKD does not provide a means to authenticate the QKD transmission source"; "since QKD is hardware-based", QKD networks can't be upgraded or patched easily; "QKD increases infrastructure costs and insider threat risks" that "eliminate many use cases from consideration"; "the actual security provided by a QKD system is not the theoretical unconditional security from the laws of physics... but rather the more limited security that can be achieved by hardware and engineering designs"; and since eavesdroppers can cause a transmission to stop, they can deny the use of a transmission by its intended users (a.k.a. a denial-of-service attack).

The no-cloning theorem of quantum physics also disallows quantum information from being amplified to compensate for losses during transmission.

Why have Manipur SITs made little progress?

What is the situation on the ground? What are the Supreme Court directions for the special investigation teams? When is the next hearing scheduled? What are the offences the SITs are looking into? Why is it difficult to hold trials in the State?

Vijaita Singh

The story so far:

A report accessed by *The Hindu* shows that the special investigation teams (SIT), set up by the Supreme Court to investigate cases of rape, sexual offences against women, murder, loot, and arson in ethnic violence-hit Manipur, have filed chargesheets only in a fraction of the cases.

When were the SITs set up?

On August 7, 2023, a Supreme Court bench led by former Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud constituted 42 SITs to probe 6,523 first information reports (FIRs) pertaining to violent crimes, including sexual offences, which were reported in Manipur from May 3 to July 30, 2023. The cleaning of records brought down the number of FIRs to 3,023. Since people were displaced from their homes, many filed zero FIRs at police stations in Manipur or even outside the State as they could not travel to the concerned police station fearing for their safety. Zero FIRs are filed irrespective of jurisdiction and are later transferred to the police station.

The SIT submits a status report every month to the Supreme Court. On December 9, 2024, the court directed the Manipur government to provide details of buildings and properties which were burnt, partially burnt, looted and trespassed during the ethnic violence. The next date of hearing is January 20.

There are concerns about holding the trial in the State due to the ongoing ethnic violence between the two communities

Cry for justice: Women protesting in Guwahati in November 2024 against the killing of three women and three children in Manipur's Jiribam. PTI

What does the status report say?

The Hindu accessed a status report of the SIT investigations dated November 20, 2024. It showed that the 42 SITs have filed chargesheets in only 6% of the total 3,023 registered cases. Chargesheets, the police summary of allegations, pertaining to various crimes have been filed only in 192 cases.

From August 2023, when the SITs were constituted, till November 20 this year, the teams arrested 384 persons, identified 742 suspects and examined 11,901 witnesses. As many as 574 accused persons have been chargesheeted so far. The report stated that the SIT is investigating 126 cases of murders and 2,888 cases of loot, arson and other property crimes. A closure report has been filed in 605 cases due to a lack of evidence and witnesses. The SIT has recovered 501 weapons, 13,464 ammunition, and 412 magazines among others so far. Overall, the Manipur Police have recovered around 1,800 looted weapons so far.

What is the composition of the SIT?

Based on the recommendation of the Manipur government, the Supreme Court said the cases should be bundled under three categories – FIRs related to murder and heinous crimes, sexual crimes against women, and other crimes such as loot, arson etc. The charter of the SITs was distributed accordingly, and the teams were further divided into six groups, one each to probe cases of murders, heinous crime and rape, and sexual offences against women, and four groups to probe cases of arson, looting and other crimes.

A Superintendent of Police-rank officer deputed by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs was tasked with supervising three SITs each which comprise two inspectors, six sub-inspectors and 12 constables.

What did the court say?

On July 20, 2023, after a video of two tribal Kuki-Zo women being paraded naked by a mob surfaced on social media, the Supreme Court called for reports indicating the steps taken by the government to hold the perpetrators accountable and ensure that such incidents are not repeated. Though the incident occurred on May 4, 2023, the case was filed in July, after the video went viral.

On August 1, 2023, the State informed the court that 11 FIRs involving cases of violence against women and children had been filed, though this was subject to further verification. Seven arrests were made in connection with these 11 FIRs, the State informed the court. The Centre said the State was willing to transfer the 11 cases to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The sexual violence case of the two women was transferred to the CBI along with other cases. Expressing dismay at the "tardy pace of investigation," the court constituted a three-member committee headed by Justice Gita Mittal, former Chief Justice of the J&K High Court. The mandate of the committee is to enquire into the nature of violence against women that occurred in Manipur from May 4, 2023, from all available sources and the FIRs lodged as well as media reports.

The court also appointed Dattatray Padsalgikar, former Director General of Police, Maharashtra to supervise the investigation by the CBI into the FIRs transferred to it and the investigation into the remaining FIRs.

What are the challenges?

A senior government official says there are several logistical issues hampering the investigation. For recording the statement of a victim, language is a challenge as many officers heading the investigating teams are from outside the State. There have been instances when victims have changed their phone numbers. "Then, for an FIR registered in Imphal (valley), a victim who hails from the hill districts, will not want to speak to an officer from the valley – this causes delays. The same is true for cases registered in the hills when the victims are from the valley," said the official.

When will the cases go to trial?

The trial is yet to commence in any of the cases, as a direction from the Supreme Court is awaited. There are concerns about holding the trial in the State due to the ongoing ethnic violence. Even though the CBI filed a chargesheet last October in a CBI court in Guwahati in the sexual violence case of the two Kuki-Zo women, the trial is yet to begin.

The spinner who shattered status-quo

Ravichandran Ashwin

After 537 Test wickets, a statistic that places him currently seventh in the all-time list, besides 3,503 runs and an ODI yield of 156 scalps, the 38-year-old cricketer called time on his international career

K.C. Vijaya Kumar

To bowl spin is to pause, reflect, tease and torment. It is much akin to making a move in chess, but in cricket with its adrenaline streaks, the big moments are often vested with batters and fast bowlers. A massive six or cartwheeling stumps makes a striking impact and lends an impetus to commentators to raise their voice and heighten the hype. But there is beauty in spin too, a seductive one that strangles batters.

It is in this realm that Ravichandran Ashwin, ever the contrarian and one who is forever questioning the status-quo, made a mark as a great off-spinner. While his deliveries seemingly hung in the air for eternity and drew perplexed batters to their doom, time did fly and twilight wrapped his storied career. After 537 Test wickets, a statistic that places him currently seventh in the all-time list, besides 3,503 runs and an ODI yield of 156 scalps, the 38-year-old called time on his international career.

He made a quick announcement to the media at Brisbane's Gabba on Wednesday. "I didn't want to make this about myself," was his preamble before he said: "Today will be the last day for me as an international cricketer." Vacating the stage when he still had the spark would not have been easy but ageing limbs and a few young spinners snapping at his heels may have pushed him towards the exit door. Additionally, he was not an instant selection overseas when the team-management went for the extra seamer and preferred a lone spinner.

But like M.S. Dhoni, Ashwin is hoping to be a regular in the Indian Premier League (IPL) and fans will get to see him in action for a while, even if it will be in the yellow jersey of Chennai Super Kings, and not in Indian whites or the blue shade. When Ashwin emerged through the ranks, fine-tuning his craft in the tough TNCA league while also coping with excess analysis from a knowledgeable Tamil Nadu cricketing fraternity, India still had Harbhajan Singh doing his bit in the slow art. Ashwin, however, caught the eye through the IPL. Soon, he was part of the Indian ODI squad and was a member of Dhoni's team, which claimed the 2011 World Cup at home.

Origin story

The origin story would not have been easy. For a State that is high on cricket, Tamil Nadu doesn't have as many Ranji Trophy titles as neighbouring Karnataka or more pedigreed players turning out for the national unit. If a historical ambiguity in making the final decisive step could be a bane, another hurdle was the constant desire to compare across eras.

At one point, the regular cliche about Indian cricketers was that they either could be wristy batters or beguiling spinners. When Ashwin surfaced at the highest level, he was stepping into a series of massive shoes. There was the famous spin-quartet of Bishan Singh Bedi. B.S. Chandrasekhar, Erapalli Prasanna and S. Venkataraghavan, the last named also hailing from Chennai, Ashwin's home-town. And then there were his immediate predecessors: Anil Kumble and Harbhajan.

These were legends with stirring achievements adorning their resumes. Comparisons were bound to occur and during a 2011 tour of England, a correspondent asked Ashwin if he felt he was ready to replace Harbhajan, who was in the concluding phase of his career. On that distant cold day at the Old Blighty, Ashwin handled a potential landmine with deft hands, doused the fires, mentioned that he was just beginning but had confidence in his skills and also reiterated his respect for Harbhajan.

It was just a matter of time before Ashwin became India's number one spinner. The signs of his talent and resilience was evident in the IPL when he would gladly bowl the opening over to the likes of Chris Gayle. This was a player who refused to take a step back. Most cricketers make a splash in their debut year before losing their way as rival teams discover vulnerabilities and keep twisting their knives into these raw spots.

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH

Ashwin, though, was made of steel. He constantly reinvented himself, adding new deliveries and also gifted a cult status to the *sodukku* ball from Chennai's streets. Rechristened the carrom ball which involved the last-minute flick of the fingers at the time of release, the ace spinner befuddled his rivals. At one point he was accused of doing too many experiments while not using his stock off-break often; he took this criticism on the chin and strove for balance.

A restless and eager presence in Indian team nets, Ashwin was never averse to experiment. You could catch him bowling some leg-spin and all this came in handy when he mimicked the bowling action of others at times. Climbing through Chennai's club cricket with its undercurrent of corporate rivalries, Ashwin leant on the skills he had and the new ones he acquired. It was a philosophy that held him in good stead, be it playing in his school – St. Bede's, or as a boy in the bylanes of Mambalam.

During his more than a decade-long stint with the national team, only twice did India falter at home, once against the visiting Englishmen in 2012 and more recently against New Zealand. Else, India remained a fortress and one primary reason for this was the genius of Ashwin. Even on spin-friendly surfaces, control and guile are important and he had these in ample measure.

With his engineering background, it was no surprise that Ashwin was deeply analytical. He knew the rules of the game and if a non-striker stepped out prematurely, Ashwin had no qualms in whipping off the bails. Even as the world lapsed into the 'spirit of the game' debate, the spinner was clear in his mind: if it is a legitimate dismissal then why are we even discussing this?

Ashwin the spinner always overpowered Ashwin the batter in terms of the perception sweepstakes. But he was a fine batter and at times had the languid charms of a V.V.S. Laxman, and six Test hundreds is a testimony to his ability. Having started as an opener before turning to spin, that old talent remained intact within his tall frame.

Always curious, it seemed organic for Ashwin to step into the YouTube space. His videos ranging from cricket to movies, have struck a chord. One of cricket's greats is bound to have a second wind, be it as a commentator or coach. "To strive to be the best I can," has always been Ashwin's motto, and the coming years might reflect that all over again.

THE GIST

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- Ashwin the spinner always overpowered Ashwin the batter in terms of the perception sweepstakes. But he was a fine batter, and six Test hundreds is a testimony to his ability

Rebels with a cause

Syrian Democratic Forces

The Kurdish militia of Syria's northeast is caught between an Islamist regime in Damascus and a hostile Turkey across the border

Stanly Johny

When civil war broke out in Syria in 2011, one of the first things Bashar al-Assad's regime did was to pull back troops from the country's north-east so that they could defend the heartland against militias. This gave an opportunity to Syria's Kurds, the country's largest ethnic minority who make up some 10% of its population, to establish a de facto autonomous government in the region. In 2012, they established the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria, also known as Rojava. In late 2015, the new administration formally established an armed wing called the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). In the subsequent years, the SDF would emerge as a highly effective ground force in the war against the Islamic State (IS) in the region.

PHOTO: AFP

After Mr. Assad crushed most of his enemies by 2016-17, with help from Russia, Iran and Hezbollah, his government entered into a detente with the Rojava. The SDF did not directly challenge Mr. Assad's authority. Mr. Assad's regime did not recognise the autonomous government, but stopped short of attacking the SDF. There was tense stability.

Mr. Assad's government collapsed on December 8. The Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), formerly al-Qaeda's Syria branch, has now captured Damascus. The HTS is backed by Türkiye, which sees the SDF as a terrorist entity. The Kurds are now caught between a pro-Turkish Islamist group that's in power in Damascus and a hostile Turkiye across the border.

Kurds are often referred to as "a people without a state". They are divided among four countries – Türkiye, Iraq, Syria and Iran. In Iraq, they have enjoyed autonomy ever since the first Gulf war. In Türkiye, the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) has been fighting a bloody civil war against the state for decades. When the Syrian Kurds established their own autonomous government and militia, Türkiye got alarmed because it thought the empowerment of Syrian Kurds would invariably strengthen the Turkish Kurds.

The main political party among Syrian Kurds was the Democratic Union Party (PYD). The People's Protection Units (YPG) was its armed wing. Türkiye considered both the PYD and the YPG as extended arms of the PKK and designated all of them as terrorist organisations.

Battle against IS

The YPG assumed regional prominence when the Islamic State, which seized eastern Syria's Raqqa and Deir Ezour, turned to Kobane, a Kurdish town on the Turkish-Syrian border.

The YPG, backed by U.S. air power, defeated the IS in Kobane in 2015, which marked the beginning of the downfall of the IS's 'Caliphate', established across Syria and Iraq. Türkiye, a NATO ally of the U.S., strongly opposed America's support for the YPG.

Later in 2015, the SDF was created, with the YPG being its core. Other smaller Arab militias, who were also threatened by the IS, also signed up for the SDF. Ever since, the SDF has acted as the official military wing of the Rojava.

In its battle against the Islamic State, the SDF continued to get support from the U.S. America still has less than 1,000 troops in Syria, in the name of fighting terrorism, and they coordinate with the SDF. In 2018 and 2019, Türkiye carried out limited military incursions into Syria, aimed at capturing SDF-held territories and creating a buffer on the border. Tensions flared up recently when the HTS-led Islamist militants were advancing towards Damascus. The Syrian National Army (SNA), a Turkish proxy and an ally of the HTS, attacked the SDF in the border region and captured more territories.

As Syria changes, the SDF's focus is on protecting Kurdish autonomy. Abu Mohammed al-Jolani, Syria's new ruler, has promised to respect the country's diversity but said nothing about Kurdish autonomy. Türkiye, whose hands have been strengthened by the fall of Mr. Assad's regime, has demanded demobilising the SDF.

Türkiye has also mobilised troops along its border, triggering fears that it was planning to launch another incursion. The SDF, caught between an uncertain future and a challenging present, says the threat from Türkiye is weakening its counter-terror operations. "The danger of an Islamic State resurgence has doubled ever since Assad has fallen," says General Mazloum Abdi, an SDF commander who led battles against the jihadists in the past. "Daesh (IS) has captured weapons from retreating Syrian government troops in recent weeks. Their activity has increased significantly," he adds.

Revolving door PM

Francois Bayrou

The MoDem leader, a centrist ally of President Macron, faces huge challenges in running a minority government amid political divisions and economic woes

Adithya Narayan

The Prime Ministership of France, currently caught in a revolving door situation, has its fourth entrant of the year in Francois Bayrou. The 73-year-old centrist leader of the Democratic Movement (MoDem) party acceded to the role on December 12 after Michel Barnier was ousted in a no-confidence vote – the first since 1962. Mr. Barnier's stint had lasted three months.

ILLUSTRATION: SAAI

Gabriel Attal, who had fulfilled the duties before Mr. Barnier, served for nine months until September before his government was dissolved in June by President Emmanuel Macron, who sought a fresh mandate following the EU parliamentary polls. Elections to the 27-member bloc had delivered a shocker to the 46-year-old President whose party could not poll even half as many votes as Marine Le Pen's far-right National Rally.

Mr. Bayrou calls the challenges ahead of him 'Himalayan'.

But the start of his tenure has belied the political acumen usually associated with a seasoned leader active since the 1980s. For when the French territory of Mayotte in the Indian Ocean was languishing in the aftermath of Cyclone Chido on December 14, the Prime Minister chose to fly off to attend a council meeting in Pau, a small city in Southwestern France, whose mayorship he retains.

Not helping the administration's cause was visiting President Macron who lost his temper when taking stock. "If it wasn't for France, you'd be 10,000 times deeper in shit," the President was caught on camera saying and swearing when residents complained of water and other aid not reaching them despite it being the seventh day since the cyclone struck. While the official death toll stands at 31, thousands are feared dead in France's poorest territory.

For Mr. Macron, Mr. Bayrou's appointment is not just a way of addressing the political instability precipitated by his reckless actions, but the two go back a long way. The MoDem leader, who had thrice run for President unsuccessfully in the past, stepped aside in 2017 and lent support to an emerging Mr. Macron. The debt may have been repaid by appointing My. Bayrou as Justice Minister the same year, but the fruits were short-lived as he had to step down over a party funding scandal in just over a month.

It is reported that the President was mulling other candidates such as outgoing Armed Forces Minister Sébastien Lecornu and former Industry Minister Roland Lescure for the post of Prime Minister. However, Mr. Bayrou is believed to have strong-armed Mr. Macron into naming him to the position.

Born to wealthy farmers in Borderes, Mr. Bayrou worked as a teacher of Greek and Latin before embarking on a political career in the 1980s. First elected to the National Assembly in 1986, he was Education Minister between 1993 and 1997 and went on to become a member of the European Parliament from 1999 to 2002.

Presidential bids

Mr. Bayrou's first shot for President came in 2002 but proved futile. He ran again in 2007 by presenting himself as the third way between the Left and the Right, with the campaign earning him the moniker of the 'third man' of French politics. Despite tripling his vote share to 18.6% compared to the previous time, Mr. Bayrou wound up third in an election that was ultimately won by the Republican Party's Nicolas Sarkozy. Mr. Bayrou contested once more unsuccessfully in 2012.

A fallout with Mr. Sarkozy notwithstanding, Mr. Bayrou is pally with far-right's Ms. Le Pen, whom the MoDem leader helped garner sponsors to run for President. The fact that he also lent support to Socialist candidates Francois Hollande and Ségolène Royal in the past makes him palatable to the Left too.

However, the snap polls called My. Macron to arrest the surge of the far-right saw the leftwing securing a maximum number of 182 seats, while falling short of the 289 majority in the 577-strong National Assembly. Mr. Macron's Ensemble came second with 168 seats while Le Pen's National Rally came close with 143.

This has spawned a National Assembly where none of the blocs have a majority.

My. Bayrou overcame a stutter in his childhood to scale the heights of politics. The Centrist leader's challenge now lies in tackling a parliament whose composition leaves him with little teeth to present a Budget that can address France's ballooning economic woes.

WASHINGTON

U.S. Congress passes Bill to avert shutdown at the last moment

REUTERS

The U.S. Congress averted a Christmastime government shutdown early on Saturday after weeks of tense negotiations that went down to the wire, passing a Bill to fund federal agencies through mid-March. The move saved Christmas for more than some 8,00,000 workers who were at risk of being sent home without pay. AFP

COLOMBO

Sri Lanka President Dissanayake to visit key lender China in January

THE HINDU

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake will travel to the island's largest bilateral lender China for talks in January, he said on Saturday, days after completing a long-delayed foreign debt restructure. China accounted for more than half of Sri Lanka's bilateral debt at the time of the 2022 economic crash. AFP

PARIS

Eight convicted for killing teacher who showed Prophet caricature

AFP

A French court sentenced eight persons to prison terms ranging from one to 16 years for their roles in a hate campaign that culminated in the murder of a teacher who had shown caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad in class. The 47-year-old was stabbed and beheaded outside his school near Paris. AFP

DHAKA

Bangladesh panel flags India's 'role in enforced disappearances'

AP

An inquiry commission formed by Bangladesh's interim government said it found India's "involvement" in incidents of "enforced disappearances" during Sheikh Hasina's tenure. The panel said there was a "persistent suggestion in law enforcement circles" that some prisoners might still be languishing in Indian jails. PTI

Rocket from Yemen strikes Tel Aviv; 19 killed in Israeli attacks on Gaza

The rocket strike, claimed by Houthis, leaves 16 persons injured; the counter attack comes two days after a series of Israeli airstrikes on capital Sanaa and the port city of Hodeida killing at least nine persons; casualties in Gaza include 12 children

Associated Press
TEL AVIV

A rocket fired from Yemen hit an area of Tel Aviv overnight, leaving 16 people slightly injured by shattered glass, the Israeli military said on Saturday, days after Israeli airstrikes hit Houthi rebels who have been launching missiles in solidarity with Palestinians.

A further 14 persons sustained minor injuries as they rushed to shelters when air raid sirens sounded before the projectile hit just before 4 a.m. on Saturday, the military said.

The Houthi rebels issued a statement on the Telegram messaging app saying they had aimed a hypersonic ballistic missile at a military target, which they did not identify.

Capital strike: Israeli emergency services work at the scene of a missile strike in the south of Tel Aviv on Saturday. REUTERS

The attack comes less than two days after a series of Israeli airstrikes on Yemen's Houthi rebel-held capital, Sanaa, and port city of Hodeida killed at least nine persons. The Israeli strikes were in response to a Houthi attack in which a long-range missile hit an Israeli school building. The Houthis also claimed a drone strike targeting an unspecified military target in central Israel on Thursday.

The Israeli military says the Iran-backed Houthis have launched more than 200 missiles and drones during the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza. The Houthis have also been attacking shipping in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and say they won't stop until there is a ceasefire in Gaza.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said both sides' attacks risk further escalation in the region and undermine UN mediation efforts.

In the Gaza Strip on Saturday, mourners held the funerals of 19 people – 12 of them children – killed in Israeli strikes on Friday and overnight.

One of the strikes hit a residential building in the built-up Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, killing at least seven Palestinians, including five children and one woman, and injuring 16 others, health officials said.

In Gaza City, another strike on a house overnight killed 12 persons, including seven children and two women, according to al-Ahli Hospital where the bodies were taken.

U.S. judge rules Israel's NSO group is liable for hacking

Reuters

WhatsApp accused NSO Group of exploiting a bug in the app to install spy software allowing unauthorised surveillance. REUTERS

A U.S. judge ruled on Friday in favour of Meta Platforms' WhatsApp in a lawsuit accusing Israel's NSO Group of exploiting a bug in the messaging app to install spy software allowing unauthorised surveillance.

U.S. District Judge Phyllis Hamilton in Oakland, California, granted a motion by WhatsApp and found NSO liable for hacking and breach of contract.

The case will now proceed to a trial only on the issue of damages, Mr. Hamilton said.

Will Cathcart, the head of WhatsApp, said the ruling is a win for privacy.

"We spent five years presenting our case because we firmly believe that spyware companies could not hide behind immunity or avoid accountability for their unlawful actions," Mr. Cathcart said in a social media post.

Cybersecurity experts welcomed the judgment.

John Scott-Railton, a senior researcher with Canadian internet watchdog Citizen Lab – which first brought to light NSO's Pegasus spyware in 2016 – called the judgment a landmark ruling with "huge implications for the spyware industry."

"The entire industry has hidden behind the claim that whatever their customers do with their hacking tools, it's not their responsibility," he said in an instant message. "Today's ruling makes it clear that NSO Group is in fact responsible for breaking numerous laws."

Russia claims village in eastern Ukraine; Kyiv strikes deep

Associated Press
Reuters
MOSCOW

Russian troops have captured the village of Kostiantynopolske in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine, the Defence Ministry said on Saturday.

Reuters could not independently confirm the report about the village, called Ostrovsky by Russia.

The settlement lies 10 km southwest of Kurakhove, which Russian troops have stormed and are threatening to encircle, according to DeepState, a Ukrainian group mapping the fighting.

Meanwhile, Ukraine brought the war into the heart of Russia on Saturday morning with drone attacks that local authorities said damaged residential buildings in the city of Kazan in the Tatarstan region, over 1,000 km from the front line.

The press service of Tatarstan's governor, Rustam Minnikhanov, said that eight drones attacked the city. Six hit residential buildings, one hit an industrial facility and one was shot down over a river, the statement said.

Local authorities said there were no casualties. Flights were halted at Kazan's airport and all mass gatherings cancelled on Saturday and Sunday.

The attacks comes after a Ukrainian attack on Friday on a town in Russia's Kursk border region using U.S.-supplied missiles killed six people, including a child.

Pakistan military courts convict 25 for pro-Imran protests

Agence France-Presse
ISLAMABAD

Amnesty called the move 'an intimidation tactic, designed to crack down on dissent'

Pakistan military courts have convicted and sentenced 25 people for involvement in pro-Imran Khan unrest last year, the armed forces said on Saturday, with the majority handed decade-long prison terms.

Former Prime Minister Mr. Khan was arrested in May last year after being ousted from office and mounting an unprecedented campaign of defiance against the nation's powerful military leaders.

His detention over graft allegations sparked nationwide unrest, some targeting armed forces installations, and prompting rare prosecutions of civilians in military courts.

Amnesty International called the move "an intimidation tactic, designed to crack down on dissent" and said it was "contrary to international law".

Military courts are largely opaque, but after months of confidentiality the military public relations wing named 25 people who have been prosecuted.

All of the convicted are men and 14 have been sentenced to a decade of "rigorous imprisonment", the military said with the remaining 11 set to serve lesser prison terms.

U.S. authorises military sales of more than $5 billion to Egypt, $295 million to Taiwan

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

The U.S. government on Friday authorised the sale of more than $5 billion in military equipment to Egypt, which has become an increasingly close partner in mediating the Gaza crisis despite serious human rights concerns.

The State Department informed U.S. Congress that it had approved the sale of $4.69 billion in equipment for 555 U.S.-made M1A1 Abrams tanks operated by Egypt, $630 million in 2,183 Hellfire air-to-surface missiles and $30 million in precision-guided munitions for Cairo.

Helping hand: The U.S. also authorised the sale of military equipment to Greece and Morocco. REUTERS

The sale "will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally country that continues to be an important strategic partner in the Middle East [West Asia]," according to a statement.

In addition to the sales to Egypt, the State Department also authorised $295 million in equipment for Taiwan, $170 million in bombs and missiles for Morocco, and $130 million in uncrewed aircraft systems and armored vehicles to Greece.

The Taiwan authorisations were announced shortly after U.S. President Joe Biden announced $571.3 million in new military aid to the self-ruled island, which China claims as part of its territory and has vowed to retake – by force, if necessary.

DOWN BUT NOT OUT

'Devastated' McSweeney vows to return a better player

GETTY IMAGES

Dumped opener Nathan McSweeney said he was "devastated" after being dropped from the Australian team but vowed to come back a better player. "Devastated. It's all part of it and I'll get my head down and get back in the nets and work really hard, and hopefully be ready to go for my next opportunity," he told *Channel Seven.*

RARING TO GO

I've got a few plans against the Indian bowlers, says Konstas

AFP

Young Australian opener Sam Konstas cannot wait to take on the Indian bowlers in the Boxing Day Test. "I've got a few plans against those (Indian) bowlers. Feeling like I'm moving really nice and hopefully I get that opportunity," Konstas told *Fox Cricket.* "I'm just going to react to the ball and show a bit of intent," he added.

CLASS ACT

Chetan Sharma backs Kohli to score three tons in the series

AFP

Former India cricketer Chetan Sharma backed Virat Kohli to succeed in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. "He is a player who has achieved so much for us. I am confident he will perform well. Let's hope he scores two more centuries. I had predicted before the series that he would score three centuries in Australia," Chetan said.

CLOSE CONTESTS

Pirates, Giants play out exciting tie; Dabang Delhi beats Pink Panthers

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Patna Pirates and Gujarat Giants were involved in an exciting 40-40 tie in a PKL match in Pune on Saturday. The result hurt the Pirates' chances of a top-two finish. For the Pirates, Devank got a Super 10. Dabang Delhi edged out Jaipur Pink Panthers 33-31 in the other match of the day.

Jadeja hopes to ride momentum in the remainder of the series

The all-rounder says Ashwin the mentor will be missed, but adds his retirement also presents an opportunity for a youngster; the southpaw feels collective effort with the bat will put the team in a good position

IND IN AUS

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
MELBOURNE

Quality knock: Jadeja came to India's rescue in the Brisbane Test with a fighting 77. AFP

After a long stint at the nets followed by a workout in the gym, Ravindra Jadeja gulped a beverage and had a tiny bite of a savoury to fortify himself. He then walked towards the assembled media personnel on the fringes of the Melbourne Cricket Ground's turf.

It was a Saturday afternoon of clear skies, rustling wind and birdsong from mynahs. Understandably the first question was about his just-retired senior ally R. Ashwin, and the all-rounder replied: "Obviously he was a mentor on the field. We have been passing messages to each other for so many years. What is the match situation, how is the batter reacting, what can we plan against him and so on. Yes, will miss him. But this situation also presents an opportunity for a youngster to step up and perform."

But was he aware of the retirement? "Through the day we were talking but I never knew. I got to know about it at the last moment when he went for the press conference. I got to know some five minutes before that as someone told me. He didn't give any hint. Well that's Ashwin, only he knows what's in his head," Jadeja said with a bemused smile.

Asked for a self-appraisal following his performance in the third Test at Brisbane, that included a none for 95 with the ball and a solid 77 with the bat, Jadeja had his response in order: "If I make runs for the team, then it gives me satisfaction. And as a player, my confidence will be high.

"In the upcoming matches, I will try to continue this momentum. Whether batting or bowling, I have to react to the situation of the match."

Queried about his responsibility as a player, Jadeja said: "My role in the latest match will be the same as my last match. But yes if we are playing in India, my responsibility as a spinner is more. I didn't get to play the first two Tests here but I practised during that break, learnt about the conditions. I then tried to implement what I learnt in the match. Rohit (Sharma) told me a day before that I am playing the third Test."

With the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series level at 1-1, Jadeja reflected on a roller-coaster sojourn Down Under: "The good thing is after three matches, we are 1-1 in this series, and the two remaining games will be interesting."

And when probed about his batting colleagues up the order, he added: "When we play in Australia and South Africa, for instance, it is important that we have runs from the top-order, and if that doesn't happen then there is pressure and more responsibility on the lower-order. But if all of us together score runs then we will be in a good position."

He then left to join his teammates in the bus. With 3312 runs and 319 wickets in Tests, the 36-year-old has a bigger responsibility now following Ashwin's departure. And Jadeja knows that.

India batters train hard ahead of Boxing Day challenge

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
MELBOURNE

Time to get going: Kohli will be keen to bounce back after three consecutive failures. GETTY IMAGES

Past the statues of Dennis Lillee and Shane Warne frozen in their bowling actions, and fringed by lush foliage, the Melbourne Cricket Ground is a pretty sight. There is history in every corner and at one level lower than the main venue, the Indians were busy preparing for their immediate future here on Saturday morning.

Despite a warm sun, the breeze remained cold, the kind that stirs awake old fractures. And in this city of stately churches and the Yarra River, the fourth Test will commence on December 26 (Thursday). While the Australian unit dispersed for a short break, the Indians remained together.

Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.L. Rahul, Shubman Gill and Rishabh Pant, had their turns with the bat at the nets. The tail too got an extended run as Mohammed Siraj and Akash Deep squared up to pace, spin and throw-downs.

At one point Rohit asked Washington Sundar: "What are your field placements?" The off-spinner complied and keeping this imaginary preventive ring in mind, Rohit played his shots. A reverse sweep was attempted too while against the pacers, it was largely about blocking or allowing the delivery to go past him. Just then a fan from the upper tier hollered: "Rohit I have come from far to see you." The skipper requested his follower to stay mum.

Pant, who had a long stint, had an even longer conversation with Gautam Gambhir, and the coach analysed a few shots. Meanwhile, with R. Ashwin having retired, Devdutt Padikkal doubled up as the extra off-spinner and gave company to Washington and Ravindra Jadeja. Much later, Padikkal got his batting stint along with Sarfaraz Khan.

Among the pacers, Jasprit Bumrah was away at the gym while Siraj honed his batting. And bowling coach Morne Morkel too bowled from a short run-up, while Kohli smiled. Another former seamer, Ajit Agarkar, the Indian chief selector, stretched a bit, held a ball and watched the proceedings.

The Indians sweated for three hours and inside the venue, previous scoreboards were flashed from the current Border-Gavaskar Trophy series in which the teams are level at 1-1. Nathan McSweeney's player-profile too cropped up on the giant screen, just that he won't be present at the latest game as Sam Konstas has been picked as the former's replacement. India will train again on Sunday before opting to rest on Monday.

On it: Harmanpreet looked at ease during practice. VIJAY SONEJI

Harmanpreet boost for on-a-high India

Shayan Acharya
VADODARA

In a clear indication that she could return to the team for India's first women's ODI against the West Indies, Harmanpreet Kaur had a long batting session in the nets.

As head coach Amol Muzumdar closely monitored the session under lights, Harmanpreet, who missed out on the last couple of T20Is due to a knee niggle, looked at ease while facing the net bowlers. The Women in Blue will be hoping to extend their winning run when the Kotambi Stadium hosts its maiden international fixture on Sunday.

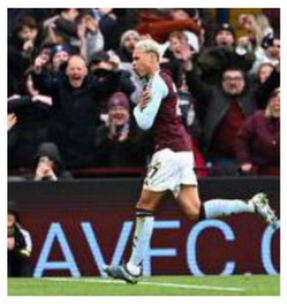
While Muzumdar agreed that 'dew will play a factor', he was confident that his team will be able to adapt well. There are concerns over the fitness of Jemimah Rodrigues, who had some discomfort in her neck.

The visitor will be again pinning its hopes on Deandra Dottin and captain Hayley Matthews, who amassed 308 runs in seven games this season.

The teams (from): India: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana, Pratika Rawal, Jemimah Rodrigues, Harleen Deol, Richa Ghosh, Uma Chetry, Tejal Hasabnis, Deepti Sharma, Minnu Mani, Priya Mishra, Tanuja Kanwer, Titas Sadhu, Saima Thakor, Renuka Singh Thakur.

West Indies: Hayley Matthews (Capt.), Shemaine Campbelle, Aaliyah Alleyne, Shamilia Connell, Nerissa Crafton, Deandra Dottin, Afy Fletcher, Shabika Gajnabi, Chinelle Henry, Zaida James, Qiana Joseph, Mandy Mangru, Ashmini Munisar, Karishma Ramharack, Rashada Williams.

Match starts at 1.30 p.m.



Rogers. GETTY IMAGES

Villa inflicts more misery on City

Agencies
BIRMINGHAM

Aston Villa inflicted more misery on Manchester City on Saturday, defeating it 2-1 in the Premier League with goals from Jhon Duran and former City forward Morgan Rogers.

Villa leap-frogged City into fifth place, while holder City dropped provisionally to sixth.

Important results: Premier League: Aston Villa 2 (Duran 16, Rogers 65) bt Manchester City 1 (Foden 90+3); Ipswich Town 0 lost to Newcastle United 4 (Isak 1, 45+2, 54, Murphy 32); Brentford 0 lost to Nottingham Forest 2 (Aina 38, Elanga 51).
Bundesliga: Stuttgart 0 lost to St Pauli 1 (Eggestein 21).

On Friday: Bundesliga: Bayern 5 (Musiala 1, Laimer 25, Kimmich 36, Sane 75, Davies 78) bt Leipzig 1 (Sesko 2).
LaLiga: Girona 3 (Lopez 31, Ruiz 39, Danjuma 81) bt Valladolid 0.
Serie A: Verona 0 lost to AC Milan 1 (Reijnders 56).

Ayush Shetty eases into the pre-quarterfinals

BADMINTON

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Second seed Ayush Shetty entered the men's singles last-16 with a comfortable 21-12, 21-13 victory over Tamil Nadu's S. Kishore at the Senior National Badminton Championship at the KBA courts here on Saturday.

The 19-year-old from Railways shrugged off the narrow loss to Karnataka's S. Bhargav in the team championship final two days ago in fine fashion. The win over Kishore was his second of the day, having beaten Punjab's Shikhar Rallan in the morning by an equally lopsided 21-14, 21-6 scoreline in a round-of-64 clash.

Women's top seed Aakarshi Kashyap also had a safe passage into the pre-quarterfinals, thrashing Uttar Pradesh's Taranjeet Kaur 21-14, 21-8.

The 23-year-old from Chhattisgarh had a slightly tougher round-of-64 rubber against Chandigarh's Rijul Saini which she managed to win 19-21, 21-12, 21-13. But against Taranjeet, she played a near-perfect match, displaying an array of deceptive half-smashes and delicate dribbles to leave her opponent bamboozled.

No sweat: Ayush Shetty was in full flow. K. MURALI KUMAR

Select results (round of 32):
Men: K. Sathish Kumar (TN) bt Ajay Nair (Ker) 21-9, 21-12; Ayush Shetty (Rly) bt S. Kishore (TN) 21-12, 21-13; Manraj Singh (Har) bt S. Bhargav (Kar) 21-11, 21-13. Rounak Chouhan (Chg) bt D.S. Saneeth (Kar) 21-11, 21-16. S. Rithvik Sanjeevi (TN) bt Chirag Sen (Rly) 12-21, 21-19, 21-15. Mithun Manjunath (Rly) bt Samarveer (Chd) 18-21, 21-17, 21-15; M. Raghu (Kar) bt Pranay Katta (Raj) 21-18, 18-21, 21-13. Sanskar Saraswat (Raj) bt Arya Bhivpathaki (Mah) 21-16, 21-15. Lakshay Sharma (Pun) bt Tushar Suveer (Kar) 12-21, 21-14, 21-18.

Women: Aakarshi Kashyap (Chg) bt Taranjeet Kaur (UP) 21-14, 21-8; Anmol Kharb (Har) bt Krishika Mahajan (J&K) 21-14, 21-14.

Tanvi Sharma (Pun) bt Swati Solanki (MP) 21-12, 21-8; Adita Rao (Guj) bt Sadhana Fenelon (TN) 21-8, 16-21, 21-12.

Tasnim Mir (Guj) bt Medhavi Nagar (Har) 19-21, 21-10, 21-13; Isharani Baruah (Asm) bt Navya Kanderi (AP) 21-13, 21-15; Devika Sihag (Har) bt K. Sreshta Reddy (Tel) 21-19, 24-22.

Mansi Singh (UP) bt K. Vennala (Tel) 21-15, 21-19; Anupama Upadhyaya (Del) bt Ilishaa Pal (Kar) 20-22, 21-16, 21-8.

Aalisha Naik (Mah) bt S. Sneha (Kar) 21-18, 21-10.

Ravinder, Sejal win mixed air pistol

Consistent: Sejal and Ravinder reigned supreme. KAMESH SRINIVASAN

NATIONAL SHOOTING

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

Ravinder Singh and Sejal Kamble clinched the mixed air pistol gold for the Army with a 16-12 victory over Pranavi Dwaram and Mukesh Nelavalli in the 67th National shooting championship in Tughlakabad on Saturday.

Jatin Chaudhary and Kavita Dhoundiyal bounced back from the brink of defeat to beat Anjali Choudhary and Vinayak Kumbhar of Assam Rifles Marksmanship Unit 17-15 to clinch a memorable bronze for the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

However, the biggest surprise was that Sarabjot Singh and Rhythm Sangwan missed the medal round on count back and placed Haryana fifth among 27 teams.

The air pistol triple gold medallist, Suruchi Phogat added another gold by winning the mixed air pistol youth crown in partnership with Samrat Rana, outclassing the Uttarakhand pair of Abhinav Deshwal and Yashasvi Joshi 16-2.

The results (Winners only):
10m air pistol: Mixed team: 1. Army (Ravinder Singh, Sejal Kamble) 16 (579).
Mixed junior team: 1. Karnataka (Gamberya Gowda, Jonathan Antony) 16 (580).
Mixed youth team: 1. Haryana (Samrat Rana, Suruchi Phogat) 16 (575).
25m sports pistol: Junior men: 1. Mukesh Nelavalli 588.
25m standard pistol: Junior women: 1. Tejaswani 570.
50m free pistol: Women: 1. Sainyam 548.

INBRIEF

Aditya and Divyanshi clinch under-15 titles

Aditya Das and Divyanshi Bhowmick claimed the youth under-15 boys' and girls' titles respectively in the UTT National Ranking table tennis championship at the Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, Bengaluru, on Saturday.

The results: Finals: Youth Boys U-15: Aditya Das (WB) bt K. Akshay Bhushan (TN) 11-9, 11-9, 11-6.
Youth Girls U-15: Divyanshi Bhowmick (Mah) bt Ananya Muralidharan (TN) 9-11, 11-5, 6-11, 11-4, 11-7.
Youth Boys U-13: Prateek Tulsani (Mah) bt J.N. Sanjey Arwindh (TN) 11-6, 8-11, 15-13, 11-9.
Youth Girls U-13: Tanishka Kalbhairav (Kar) bt Myraa Sangelkar (Mah) 14-12, 11-8, 11-9.

Silver for Koyel, Nilam in Asian youth weightlifting

India's Koyel Bar and L. Nilam Devi won silver medals in the 55kg youth and junior girls' categories respectively to take the country's tally to six in the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships here on Saturday. Koyel managed 79kg in snatch and 103kg in clean & jerk for an aggregate lift of 182kg, while Nilam lifted 86 in snatch and 104kg in clean & jerk fow an overall effort of 190kg.

It's Manipur versus Odisha in women's football final

Record 22-time champion Manipur eliminated Bengal, while Odisha ousted last year's runner-up Haryana to set up a summit clash in the 29th senior Women's National football championship for the Rajmata Jijabai Trophy at Narainpur, Chhattisgarh, on Saturday.

The results: Manipur 3 (Dangmei Grace 53, Naorem Priyangka Devi 55, Hemam Shikly Devi 78') bt Bengal 0; Odisha 2 Pyari Xaxa (10, 88) bt Haryana 0.

LIVE TELECAST

India Women vs West Indies Women: 1st ODI, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 1.30 p.m.
South Africa vs Pakistan: 3rd ODI, JioCinema, 5 p.m.
Serie A: gxr.world, 5, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Monday)
LaLiga: gxr.world, 6.30, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 & 10 p.m.
ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.

Shrijith's century eclipses Shreyas' as Karnataka outbats Mumbai

While the Mumbai batter secured his maiden List-A century, Dubey forged a 183 run-stand with the keeper-batter to guide their side home

VIJAY HAZARE

Anish Pathiyil
AHMEDABAD

Led by wicketkeeper K.L. Shrijith's classy century, Karnataka batters produced a clinic in chasing down a high total as the side cantered to a seven-wicket over Mumbai in the opening Group-C game of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Saturday.

Mumbai skipper Shreyas Iyer's attacking hundred (114 n.o., 55b, 5x4, 10x6) proved to be in vain as Shrijith's knock (150 n.o., 101b, 20x4, 4x6) and contributions from K.V. Aneesh (82, 66b, 9x4, 3x6) and Pravin Dubey (65 n.o., 50b, 5x4, 1x6) helped the team chase down the 383-run target, recording the second-highest successful chase in the history of the competition.

The innings from the two centurions were in stark contrast. While Shreyas bludgeoned the bowling for 10 sixes in his knock, the Karnataka 'keeper ticked off the runs with some classical shot-making, finding the gaps with drives and pulls to record his maiden List-A hundred. Karnataka got the perfect platform in the chase with quick cameos from openers Nikin Jose and Mayank Agarwal before debutant Aneesh combined for a 94-run stand with Shrijith to set up the chase.

After Aneesh holed out, Dubey played the perfect foil to Shrijith's innings, not looking for anything fancy and helping the team across the line with a solid 183-run partnership.

Earlier, Ayush Mhatre (78, 82b, 6x4, 2x6) and Hardik Tamore (84, 94b, 7x4, 3x6) put on a 141-run stand to set the ball rolling for Mumbai before the Shreyas onslaught.

After Suryakumar Yadav fell for 20, Shivam Dube (63 n.o., 36b, 5x4, 5x6) and Shreyas stepped on the gas taking the full toll of the short-pitch bowling being dished out by Karnataka.

Shreyas took just 50 balls to get to his hundred, which he brought in with a flat-batted six down the ground. He put on 148 runs in 65 balls with Dube to push Mumbai to a formidable total, which proved inadequate at the end.

Oozing class: Shrijith hardly put a foot wrong as his unbeaten hundred helped his side chase down 383. FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY: FIRST-ROUND SCORES

Group-A: Jaipur: Uttarakhand 365/4 in 50 overs (Yuvraj Chaudhary 151, Kunal Chandela 71, Dikshanshu Negi 51 n.o., Aditya Tare 43 n.o.) bt Manipur 183 in 46.2 overs (Himanshu Bisht 3/41); **Toss:** Manipur; **Points: Uttarakhand 4, Manipur 0.**
Haryana 260 in 49.3 overs (Nishant Sindhu 88, Sumit Kumar 55, Arzan Nagwaswalla 4/56) lost to Gujarat 263/3 in 36.2 overs (Aarya Desai 57, Urvil Patel 115 n.o., Vishal Jayswal 65 n.o.); **Toss:** Gujarat; **Gujarat 4, Haryana 0.**
Assam 257/9 in 50 overs (Rishav Das 78, Sumit Ghadigaonkar 77) lost to Jharkhand 261/3 in 44.3 overs (Utkarsh Singh 82, Virat Singh 109 n.o.); **Toss:** Jharkhand; **Jharkhand 4, Assam 0.**
Goa 371/4 in 50 overs (Snehal Kauthankar 67, Ishaan Gadekar 93, Darshan Misal 79, Suyash Prabhudessai 74 n.o.) bt Odisha 344 in 49.4 overs (Swastik Samal 57, Gourav Choudhury 78, Sandeep Pattnaik 73, Kartik Biswal 49, Aasirwad Swain 53, Arjun Tendulkar 3/61); **Toss:** Odisha; **Goa 4, Odisha 0.**
Group-B: Mumbai: Andhra 294 in 49.2 overs (Ashwin Hebbar 132, Ricky Bhui 41, Rahul Sharma 4/69, Yuvraj Singh 3/58) bt Railways 203 in 41.5 overs (Suraj Ahuja 40, Mohammad Saif 46,

Anmolpreet smashed the fastest List-A hundred by an Indian, in 35 balls against Arunachal Pradesh. FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Upendra Yadav 64, K.V. Sasikanth 3/47, Bodhala Kumar 4/45); **Toss:** Railways; **Andhra 4, Railways 0.**
Himachal Pradesh 279/9 in 50 overs (Ankit Kalsi 110, Mayank Dagar 50, Swarajeet Das 4/45) bt Meghalaya 153 in 40.2 overs (Nishanta Chakraborty 47, Vinay Galetiya 4/29); **Toss:** Meghalaya; **HP 4, Meghalaya 0.**
Rajasthan 215 in 40.1 overs (Kartik Sharma 123, Rajneesh Gurbani 4/35) lost to Maharashtra 216/7 in 42.3 overs (Siddhesh Veer 43, Ankit Bawne 74 n.o., Nikhil Naik 46, Aniket Choudhary 4/49); **Toss:** Maharashtra; **Maharashtra 4, Rajasthan 0.**
Navi Mumbai: Sikkim 163/8 in 50 overs (Parth Palawat 44, Amit Shukla 4/15) lost to Services 164/5 in 34.4 overs (Ravi Chauhan 59, Ankur Malik 3/56); **Toss:** Services; **Services 4, Sikkim 0.**
Group-C: Ahmedabad: Mumbai 382/4 in 50 overs (Ayush Mhatre 78, Hardik Tamore 84, Shreyas Iyer 114 n.o., Shivam Dube 63 n.o.) lost to Karnataka 383/3 in 46.2 overs (Mayank Agarawal 47, K.V. Aneesh 82, Krishnan Shrijith 150 n.o., Praveen Dubey 65 n.o.); **Toss:** Karnataka; **Karnataka 4, Mumbai 0.**
Hyderabad 276 in 48.1 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 51, Aelgani Varun Goud 57, Aravelly Avanish 100, Imliwati Lemtur 4/48, Rongsen Jonathan 3/41) bt Nagaland 234/8 in 50 overs (Yugandhar Singh 80, Jagadeesha Suchith 66); **Toss:** Nagaland; **Hyderabad 4, Nagaland 0.**
Arunachal Pradesh 164 in 48.4 overs (Techi Neri 42, Ashwani Kumar 3/37, Mayank Markande 3/31) lost to Punjab 167/1 in 12.5 overs (Anmolpreet Singh 115 n.o.); **Toss:** Punjab; **Punjab 4, Arunachal 0.**
Saurashtra 285/8 in 50 overs (Sheldon Jackson 71, Arpit Vasavada 62, Chirag Jani 69 n.o.) lost to Pondicherry 289/5 in 48.4 overs (Ajay Rohera 43, Akash Kargave 42, Ankit Sharma 47, Arun Karthik 73 n.o., Aman Khan 46 n.o.); **Toss:** Pondicherry; **Pondicherry 4, Saurashtra 0.**
Group-D: Visakhapatnam: Chhattisgarh vs Mizoram; Match abandoned without a ball bowled; **Chhattisgarh 2, Mizoram 2.**
Vizianagaram: Chandigarh vs Tamil Nadu; Match abandoned without a ball bowled; **Chandigarh 2, TN 2.**
Jammu & Kashmir vs Uttar Pradesh; Match abandoned without a ball bowled; **J&K 2, UP 2.**
Group-E: Hyderabad: Bihar 196 in 46.4 overs (Sakibul Gani 48, Bipin Saurabh 50, Avesh Khan 3/21) lost to Madhya Pradesh 197/4 in 25.1 overs (Harsh Gawli 83, Rajat Patidar 55); **Toss:** MP; **MP 4, Bihar 0.**
Delhi 272/7 in 50 overs (Vaibhav Kandpal 47, Ayush Badoni 41, Himmat Singh 60, Anuj Rawat 79 n.o., Mukesh Kumar 4/66) lost to Bengal 274/4 in 41.3 overs (Abishek Porel 170 n.o., Anustup Majumdar 37); **Toss:** Bengal; **Bengal 4, Delhi 0.**
Baroda 302/7 in 50 overs (Ninad Rathva 44, Shivalik Sharma 86, Vishnu Solanki 54, Bhanu Pania 49 n.o.) bt Tripura 210 in 44.4 overs (Jiwanjot Singh 60, Mandeep Singh 54, Mahesh Pithiya 4/44). **Toss:** Tripura; **Baroda 4, Tripura 0**.

Liron Jaden claims the overall title

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau
COIMBATORE

DTS Racing's Liron Jaden Samuels (37pts) deservedly walked away with the overall title in the JK Tyre Novice Cup, part of the 27th JK Tyre - FMSCI National Racing Championship, at the Kari Motor Speedway here on Saturday.

It was a tight battle between Liron and Aditya Patnaik from Momentum Motorsports. Both secured a double win each. The latter won the fourth and the fifth race in a commanding manner.

But his joy was short-lived as he was imposed a 10-second penalty for the jump start in the fourth race. It pushed him down to fourth place. Liron, having finished second in the race, was elevated to the top and, with it, boosted his points tally.

Momentum Motorsports, however, was happy to take home the team championship with 63 points to its kitty. DTS Racing (61pts) had to rest content for the second spot.

The results (provisional): JK Tyre Novice Cup: Race 1 (10 laps): 1. Liron Jaden Samuels (DTS Racing) 13:33.268; 2. Lokith L. Ravi (DTS Racing) 13:33.639; 3. M. Abhay (MSport) 13:34.421.
Race 2 (10 laps): 1. Aditya Patnaik (Momentum Motorsport) 16:24.261; 2. Abhay 16:242.547; 3. Liron 16:25.093.
Race 3 (9 laps): 1. Abhay 12:18.579; 2. Saishiva Sankaran (Momentum Motorsport) 12:21.601; 3. Aditya 12:23.864.
Race 4 (10 laps): 1. Liron 15:08.194; 2. Neil Singh Kalsi (Momentum Motorsports) 15:09.284; 3. Lokith L. Ravi (DTS Racing) 15:10.549.
Race 5: 1. Aditya 13:12.582; 2. Saishiva 13:18.258; 3. Liron 13:18.391.

India gets nod as shooting Junior World Cup host

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) has confirmed India as the host for a Junior World Cup in 2025.

The ISSF has offered two windows in the calendar to slot the competition from September to early November. The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) will decide on the dates soon and convey to the ISSF.

The ISSF president Luciano Rossi had announced that India would host the event during his visit in November for the World Cup Finals.

"Now that the official confirmation has come, we are excited and energised to put our best foot forward as usual. We are indebted to the Ministry of Sports for supporting in every possible way," said the president of the NRAI, Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo.

"The world's future stars will converge in India for a blockbuster showdown, and we are confident that it will be another big boost for the sport," said the secretary general of NRAI, Sultan Singh.

Services through to quarters; J&K eliminates Telangana

On target: Sreyas drew first blood for Services. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SANTISH TROPHY

Sports Bureau
HYDERABAD

Defending champion Services entered the quarterfinals with a 2-0 win over 10-man Rajasthan in the Santosh Trophy National Football Championship at the Deccan Arena here on Saturday.

This was the third straight win for Services as it moves to nine points.

Earlier in the day, Jammu & Kashmir kept its hopes alive with a 3-0 win against host Telangana in a do-or-die match.

The defeat also meant the home team was the first to be eliminated.

Rajasthan, also with a point, is fifth, and can qualify for the last eight if it beats Jammu & Kashmir on Monday.

Services made a quick start as V.G. Sreyas converted a brilliant low cross by Thingnam Bidyasagar Singh from the left with a deft finish in the 20th minute.

Rajasthan suffered a big blow when its forward Youraj Singh was sent off for two bookings.

It was one-way traffic for the remainder of the match. Services' second goal was scored when J. Vijay put his individual prowess on display.

Picking up a ball from captain Christopher Kamei with his back to the goal, Vijay turned swiftly, blazed past two red shirts to enter the box and tucked it away into the bottom-left corner.

In the other match, Jammu & Kashmir led at half-time thanks to Hayat Bashir's fifth-minute opener.

Captain Aakif Javaid did the spadework for the first goal, cutting a cross from the by-line with his left foot. Dimple Bhagat essayed a swinging left-footer in a crowded six-yard box for Arun Nagial to nod it in for his second goal of the final round.

Javaid completed the tally in the 88th minute with a left-footer from the top of the circle.

The results: J & K 3 (Hayat Bashir 5, Arun Nagial 74, Aakif Javaid 88) bt Telangana 0; Services 2 (V.G. Sreyas 20, J. Vijay 85) bt Rajasthan 0.

Huntingdon should make amends

HYDERABAD: The four-year-old colt Huntingdon, who ran third in his last start, should make amends in the upper division of the Ghulam Ahmed Memorial Cup, the main event of Sunday's (Dec. 22) races here.

1 SANGAM PLATE (1,200m), (Terms) Maiden, 2-y-o only – 12.45 p.m.: 1. N R I Blaze (3) Kuldeep Sr. 56, 2. Smart Operator (1) Surya Prakash 56, 3. Sound Wave (2) Mukesh 56, 4. Step To Touch (6) R.S. Bhati 56, 5. Victory Run (7) Ashad Asbar 56, 6. French Lady (4) G. Naresh 54.5, 7. Global Fashion (5) Nakhat 54.5 and 8. Stars Envied (8) Md. Ismail 54.5.
1. STARS ENVIED, 2. N R I BLAZE, 3. SOUND WAVE

2 INDIAN NAVY ROLLING CHALLENGE TROPHY (1,800m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 1. 15: 1. Trishul (4) Ashad Asbar 60, 2. Alpine Girl (7) Kuldeep Jr. 57.5, 3. Carnival Lady (2) Shivansh 56.5, 4. Sugar (9) B.R. Kumar 56.5, 5. Dapper Look (1) R.S. Jodha 55, 6. Ampere's Touch (6) Mukesh 54, 7. Lifes Journey (3) P. Sai K 52, 8. Anemoi (8) G. Naresh 51.5 and 9. Clara (5) Kuldeep Sr. 51.5.
1. TRISHUL, 2. LIFES JOURNEY, 3. AMPERE'S TOUCH

3 TRADE FAIR PLATE (Div. II) (1,200m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 1.45: 1. Classical Music (8) H.M. Akshay 61.5, 2. Sucker Punch (3) Deepak 60.5, 3. Exclusive Luck (1) Md. Ismail 59.5, 4. Lights On (6) Nakhat 58, 5. Muaser (4) P. Ajeeth K 56, 6. Golden Inzio (2) Kuldeep Sr. 55.5, 7. If You Like It (5) Mukesh 53 and 8. Shubhrak (7) Surya Prakash 50.
1. MUASER, 2. EXCLUSIVE LUCK, 3. CLASSICAL MUSIC

4 TRADE FAIR PLATE (Div. I) (1,200m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 2. 15: 1. Power Ranger (6) R.S. Jodha 62.5, 2. Star Cruise (2) Kuldeep Sr. 61, 3. Top In Class (1) Mukesh 60.5, 4. Char Ek Char (7) R.S. Bhati 56, 5. City Cruise (8) Md. Ekram 56, 6. Silver Lining (4) P. Ajeeth K 55, 7. Pancho (5) B. Nikhil 54.5, 8. Reining Queen (3) Surya Prakash 53 and 9. Soorya Vahan (9) Md. Ismail 53.
1. TOP IN CLASS, 2. CHAR EK CHAR, 3. PANCHO

5 GHULAM AHMED MEMORIAL CUP (Div. II) (1,600m), 3-y-on and upward, rated 80 and above (Cat. I) – 2.45: 1. Akido (1) R.S. Jodha 61.5, 2. Truth (8) Kuldeep Sr. 56, 3. Shadow Of The Moon (7) Mukesh 55.5, 4. N R I Superpower (2) B.R. Kumar 53, 5. Livermore (3) Afroz K 52, 6. Mireya (4) H.M. Akshay 52, 7. Painted Apache (6) Kuldeep Jr. 50 and 8. Dyanoosh (5) Surya Prakash 50.
1. TRUTH, 2. LIVERMORE, 3. SHADOW OF THE MOON

6 ARISTOCRAT PLATE (1,800m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 3.15: 1. China Town (8) P. Ajeeth K 60, 2. Das (7) Deepak 59, 3. Skyward (3) Gaurav 58, 4. London Bell (5) R.S. Jodha 57, 5. Freedom Touch (1) Ashad Asbar 56.5, 6. Federer (6) Afroz K 55, 7. Cherish The Lady (2) P. Sai K 52.5, 8. Varaneek Gold (4) Kuldeep Sr. 52, 9. Total Control (9) H.M. Akshay 51 and 10. Nav Lakhaa (10) Surya Prakash 50.5.
1. FREEDOM OF TOUCH, 2. CHINA TOUCH, 3. DAS

7 GHULAM AHMED MEMORIAL CUP (Div. I) (1,600m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 80 and above (Cat. I) – 3.45: 1. Siddharth (9) Shivansh 63, 2. Huntingdon (3) P. Sai K 60, 3. High Command (2) Ashad Asbar 57, 4. N R I Doublepower (8) Kuldeep Sr. 55, 5. Best Buddy (1) Md. Ekram 51.5, 6. Hugh Capet (6) Mukesh 51.5, 7. Imperia (4) P. Ajeeth K 50, 8. Brooklyn Beauty (7) G. Naresh 50 and 9. Miss Little Angel (5) Ajay K 50.
1. HUNTINGDON, 2. HIGH COMMAND, 3. IMPERIA

8 KUNTALA PLATE (1,400m), 3-y-o and upward, rated upto 25 (Cat. III) – 4.15: 1. Amboseli (6) Abhay Singh 61.5, 2. Elegant Lady (4) Mukesh 61.5, 3. Lady Jane (10) Kuldeep Jr. 61.5, 4. Peppi (8) Ashad Asbar 61.5, 5. Sadiya (7) Surya Prakash 61.5, 6. Secret Option (5) B.R. Kumar 61.5, 7. Hawk King (2) R.S. Bhati 61, 8. Exclusive Spark (1) Mohit 59.5, 9. Deccan Ranger (3) Deepak 59 and 10. Zidane (9) G. Naresh 50.
1. DECCAN RANGER, 2. AMBOSELI, 3. PEPPI
Day's Best: TRUTH
Jackpot: 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8; Mini Jackpot: (i) 2, 3, 4 & 5, (ii) 5, 6, 7 & 8; Treble: (i) 1, 2 & 3, (ii) 3, 4 & 5, (iii) 6, 7 & 8.
Tanala: All races.

East Bengal edges Jamshedpur

The hero: Dimitrios is mobbed by his teammates after scoring the winner. DEBASISH BHADURI

ISL

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

East Bengal FC posted consecutive wins at home for the first time in the Indian Super League when it downed Jamshedpur FC by a solitary goal in a 12th round action of the tournament's 11th edition, at the Salt Lake Stadium, here on Saturday.

Greek striker Dimitrios Diamantakos found the only goal of the match at the hour mark to secure the full quota of points. East Bengal, which downed Punjab FC 4-2 in the previous match, climbed to 10th in the 13-team league standings with 13 points from 12 matches while Jamshedpur FC remains in seventh with 18 from 11.

The opening session produced some excitement towards the end when East Bengal discovered its rhythm. The host almost got a goal in the 27th minute when Cleiton Silva set up Nandhakumar Sekar unmarked inside the box. The East Bengal winger hesitated for a moment allowing the Jamshedpur goalkeeper Albino Gomes to close in for a save.

East Bengal played some nice one-touch passes around the Jamshedpur box but the home side's finishing remained tardy.

Nandhakumar set up the opportunity whipping in a sharp cross that the young P.V. Vishnu failed to flick home. However, Diamantakos followed the ball from the far end to slot it home.

The results: East Bengal 1 (Dimitrios Diamantakos 60) bt Jamshedpur FC 0.
At Mumbai: Mumbai City 1 (Nikolaos Karelis 8) bt Chennaiyin FC 0.

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